CIRCULATION LAST WEEK
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Poetry.

THE DRUMMER'S WIFE.

O, many a tribute is daily paid
To the "knight of the carpet sack,"
But seldom a word for the little wife
Who waits for her knight to come back.

We know he is jolly; the life of the road,
To all men a brother and friend;
So polite to the ladies, so kind to the babes,
May the days of this knight never end.

But while he is spinning the railroad along,
Or stopping at hotels so swell,
Seeing operas and dramas and vaudeville shows,
And Sousa's band concerts as well,

(He is having a time when the day's work is o'er;
He is out with the boys "seein' sights,"
And he sees 'em, no doubt, for its lonesome, you know,
In a strange town staying in nights).

At home by the fireside, a dear little wife,
Her babies in bed, sits alone;
She would like to see Drew in The Liars to-night,
But her husband, her escort, is gone.

She sees with a sigh other couples go by;
Oh, happy husbands and wives,
They're going together, as married folks should,
And she thinks, "We live separate lives."

Her husband to her is a king among men;
He is well up in travelers' ways;
She would like to go with him on many a trip,
She would like to spend all her days

Traveling over the country, just near him to be,
But alas she must linger alone;
She doesn't accept invitations from friends—
Just regrets, "My husband is gone."

She knows that her honor he holds doubly dear;
Not a step from the right does she go,
But say's: "Although lonely and often depressed,
My husband's a drummer, you know.

"And while he's away I must follow the rule;
To do as I wish him to do;
Be true to his family, his honor, his God,
And thus to himself he'll be true.

"Our children must mainly be guided by me;
I've a duty in life to perform;
To their mother they'll look for their raising some day,
And they must not through me come to harm."

So she patently waits through the long, lonely hours,
While her "knight of the road" is away,
And she welcomes him home with a smile and a kiss,
And for her 'tis a red letter day.

So remember, ye poets, when singing a lay
To the "knight of the carpet sack,"
To put in your song a note for the wife,
Who waits for her knight to come back.
—Abba Ayres, in Cleveland Leader.

THE OLD HYMNS.

There's lots of music in 'em—the hymns of long ago,
An' when some gray-haired brother sings the ones I used to know,
I sorter want to take a hand—I think o' days gone by;
"On Jordan's stormy bank I stand and cast a wistful eye!"

There's lots of music in 'em—those dear, sweet hymns of old—
With visions bright of lands of light, and shining streets of gold;
And I hear 'em singing—singing, where mem'ry, dreaming, stands,
"From Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strands."

They seem to sing forever, of holier, sweeter days,
When the lilies of the love of God bloomed white in all the ways;
And I want to hear their music from the old-time meetin's rise
Till "I can read my title clear to mansions in the skies."

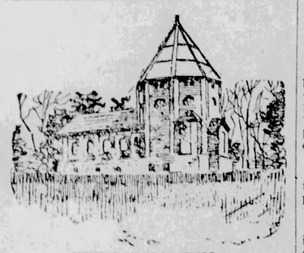
We never needed singin' books in them old days—we knew
The words—the tunes of every one the dear old hymn-book through!
We didn't have no trumpet then—nor organs built for show;
We only sang to praise the Lord "From whom all blessings flow."

An' so I love the old hymns, and when my time shall come—
Before the light has left me, and my singing lips are dumb—
If I can only hear 'em then, I'll pass without a sigh
"To Canaan's fair and happy lands, where my possessions lie."
—Volunteers' Gazette.

Miscellany.

BISMARCK'S MAUSOLEUM.

The great mausoleum in which the remains of Prince Bismarck will rest has at last been completed. The building is of severe and majestic appearance as befits its use. The walls are partly of granite and have an average thickness of four feet and a half. It stands in the grounds of the prince's favorite castle, Friedrichsruhe. As you enter the main gateway of the castle you see on the right a hill, and on this is the mausoleum. The hill is in a



THE MAUSOLEUM.

corner of the wood known as the Sachsenwald. It was a favorite spot with the great statesman. On a hill opposite is the group of stags which was presented to the prince on his eightieth birthday. The building consists of a round tower and a nave. The tower contains the bodies of the prince and princess, while the rest of the building is reserved for the general family vault. The building is designed to serve the double purposes of a mausoleum and a funeral chapel. The architect was Herr Schorbach of Hanover. The prince's sarcophagus is of red marble, in the Romanesque style, with a base of black stenite. It is eight feet long, five feet wide and five feet high.

Triumphant.

"When you get in a crowd, my dear," said Mr. Winkles to his wife, "always look out for pickpockets."

"I'm not afraid of them, dearest," answered Mrs. Winkles. "They can't pick my pocket."

"That's just like you women," said Mr. Winkles, "always so sure. Pray tell me why you couldn't have your pocket picked."

"Because I haven't got any," answered Mrs. Winkles, proudly.—Harper's Bazar.

Similar, but Different.

"Yes," remarked the globe-trotter, "I've been everywhere, seen many queer sights and had lots of fun, but I've been in a good many tight places."

"While I've never traveled much," rejoined his companion, "I've had some gay old times, been tight in a good many places and have incidentally seen some mighty queer things."—Chicago News.

NEXT SPEAKER OF CONGRESS.

Something About the Official Life of Gen. D. B. Henderson.

Speaker-to-be Henderson has been in Congress since 1883. During these sixteen years he has been so prominent in all the debates in the House that his record is literally an open page to be read of all men. A man of frank utterance, he has never cloaked his opinions and beliefs in ambiguous language. Indeed, the reports of the debates are, even in revised and corrected print, a mirror of the man. He has frequently addressed his colleagues familiarly as "boys," has not hesitated to impulsively exclaim "My God!" when a proposition of some kind stirred his soul, and has invariably spoken with characteristic freedom on all topics.

Mr. Henderson's first speech in Congress was in favor of an appropriation for improving an ice harbor at Dubuque, his home town. Since that time his horizon has broadened and the whole unbounded continent appeals to him. Consequently, to print even a very small fraction of all he has said on every subject would fill a newspaper. The best that can be done is to present a few extracts upon topics of general interest, which will be some indication of his views.

One of General Henderson's chief fads in Congress has been generous appropriations for pensions. From the very first moment when a pension appropriation bill was considered in a Congress of which he was a member until the present day, he has lost no opportunity of eulogizing the veterans of the Civil War and urging that the government treat them with the utmost generosity.

The speech which he delivered on March 7, 1894, is a fair sample of all his utterances. The Democrats had attacked the pension roll as a roll of fraud. General Henderson claimed that not a scintilla of evidence had been produced to prove this charge. He denounced Gen-

eral Black for having attempted "to strike a dagger into the souls" of the ex-Union soldiers. "For one," he exclaimed, "this debate shall not close without my crying 'shame' upon the soldier who stands here leading a column to discredit the pensioners of this republic. My God!" he continued, "have we not a Union, and are we not all in it now? If so, let us try and pull together and be just."

The conclusion of his speech was characteristic. He said:

"I am sorry to have to say it, but true it is that heretofore and now, the Democratic party is unfriendly to the pensioners. I say the party. I speak not of those individual exceptions who stand up for justice in spite of political associations. I say it, and I challenge the records of my country for contradiction, that the Republican party is and always has been the friend of the soldier.

"Let those lines be torn down, my countrymen, and let us come together. The war has been fought. Let the noise of the guns be silenced forever. The country is rich enough and strong enough to take care of those who served for its perpetuation, and let us try and get our heartbeats together until an anthem of patriotism shall rise from the heartbeats of this legislative body that will recognize justice and the brave, honest fellows who, in their ignorance and yet in their patriotism, tried to do their duty by all of us during that great struggle."

When the resolution for investigating the alleged fraudulent armor plates was before the House in the summer of 1894, Mr. Henderson said:

"If this company had 10,000 Carnegies in it, for one I should insist upon the investigation. (Applause). Let us put the knife of honest investigation into the question and ascertain, as we ought to ascertain, what are the facts in connection with it." (Applause).

In view of the effort which will be made in the next Congress to pass a railroad pooling bill, it is interesting to note that Gen. Henderson voted against the pooling bill which passed the House in 1894, and which was in charge of Congressman Patterson, of Tennessee. Gen. Henderson did not make a speech upon the measure, and only participated in the debate in a casual manner. Although he voted to recommit the bill and also against its passage, his remarks indicated a friendliness to pooling. For instance, he said that the cattle raisers in Iowa, the Dakotas, and the far West were absolutely at the mercy of the four or five men who own the Chicago stock yards. "Now," said he, "it is pretty well understood that this great power which owns the stock yards get rates to suit them, get rates that have practically destroyed the cattle companies on the plains of the far west, and cut down the value of every farm west of Chicago." According to Mr. Henderson, these five stock yard owners got secret rates, and he asked whether or not a system of pooling would not prevent illegal and disastrous rate-cutting. "And is not the great benefit from the pooling," he continued, "to be derived from getting something that can be enforced, and not have this secret, piratical system pursued, which is injuring all of us? While I have doubts about it, if by pooling this secret giving of rebates can be done away with, and we can get a square, open law that can be enforced, then I am disposed to vote for it."

But Gen. Henderson did not vote for it. On the contrary, he voted against it.

When Bourke Cockran and a few others attempted to nullify the income tax law by striking out the appropriation for the revenue agents required to execute the law, Gen. Henderson opposed the effort. He did not like the indirect way of attacking a law which Congress had placed upon the statute books. "I do not favor the 'starving out' process," he said, and when the motion was made to recommit the bill with instructions to report it back with the appropriation omitted, he voted in the negative.

With reference to currency legislation, Gen. Henderson's record is quite voluminous, but consistent. He has always been against the free coinage of silver, but in 1893 he declared that the panic of that year was due more to the fear of low tariff than to the purchase of silver under the Sherman law. He voted for the repeal of the purchasing clause, after making a speech in which he said that free coinage would send this country to a silver basis. He regarded the repeal bill as merely an opiate, temporarily relieving pain.

"My conviction is," he said, "that the time is near at hand when there must be a radical revision of our whole financial system."

When currency legislation came to the front again in 1895, Gen. Henderson reiterated what he had said in the tariff debate of 1894, that he was against the issuing of gold bonds. "Nor am I willing," he added, "to adopt legislation that provides for the retirement and cancellation of the greenback. The time may come when I shall change my mind, but I do not believe that the conditions are yet ripe for such retirement." Gen. Henderson supported the Reed substitute, because, as he said, it did not authorize the issue of gold bonds, did not cancel the greenbacks, and did not contract the currency. In each of these three propositions it agreed with Gen. Henderson's views.

In December, 1895, Gen. Henderson spoke and voted for the Dingley bond bill, on the ground that it did not compel the issuance of bonds; that if the issuance became necessary, it could be accomplished at a lower rate of interest than the government had been paying; that the bonds would remain in the United States, and that the greenbacks would not be retired. In fact, Gen. Henderson indorsed it because, in his opinion, it would avert the issuance of bonds, a step which he has always contemplated with considerable antagonism.

The committee on the judiciary, of which Gen. Henderson was chairman, has had opportunities to report legislation against trusts, but has failed to do so. In the Fifty-fourth congress, Mr. Tucker introduced a bill to prevent trusts, monopolies and combinations in trade, while in the last congress, Mr. Gillett had referred to the committee a bill to regulate the interstate transportation of property owned or manufactured by unlawful combination. These bills never saw the light of day after being sent to the committee.

The only action taken by the committee relative to trusts was in the Fifty-fourth congress, when a substitute was reported for a forcible resolution offered by Mr. Hubbard, asking the attorney general why he had not enforced the law relating to the suppression of trusts. When this resolution was reported back by Gen. Henderson, all its sting had been extracted and the substitute was really a new resolution in gentler language. It requested the attorney general to inform the house what steps he had taken to enforce the law against trusts, and what further legislation, if any, was needed. Attorney General Harmon, it will be remembered, answered the resolution. His recommendations were not acted upon by the committee.

Gen. Henderson, as chairman of the judiciary committee, was quite active in securing the passage of the bill to prevent prize-fighting in the territories and the District of Columbia. He defended the severity of the punishment proposed in the law—imprisonment from one to five years—by saying that it was "the judgment of the best people in America that severe penalties should be enforced to break up this practice."

The bill to reduce the cases in which the death penalty can be inflicted also received Gen. Henderson's support and vote.

As there will undoubtedly be some effort to curtail the power of the speaker in the next house, or at least secure the appointment of the committee on rules by a Republican caucus instead of by the speaker. It is worth while knowing that Gen. Henderson, who was one of Reed's committee on rules, always insisted that the system was not autocratic. "We of the committee on rules are not here as dictators," he said one day, in steering a special order through the house. He especially resented Representative Walker's insinuation that "the leaders" were trying to run the house.

"Oh, don't plead the baby act," said Gen. Henderson. "I do not know what the gentleman means by 'leaders.' Then he pointed out that, although one member could make a motion, it took a majority of all the members of the house to carry the motion into effect. In other words, Gen. Henderson always insisted that while the committee on rules could plan the work of the house, their power was limited to that extent, as a majority of the house could reject the proposed program if it desired to do so.

Gen. Henderson has invariably been friendly to legislation favorably affecting labor interests, and supported the Phillips labor commission bill. He regarded the salaries of $80,000 per annum provided in the bill as a mere bagatelle compared with the great results which would be secured in the prevention of strikes. "Where a million dollars will be saved in a single hour," he said, "why talk of $80,000?"

The next speaker has always been friendly to the civil service law, although he was not averse to the order of President Harrison, which suspended Cleveland's "blanket" order and allowed the reinstatement of several good Iowa Republican ex-veterans of the war.—Washington Post.

"MAN WITHOUT A STOMACH."

A Case Which Defies the Laws of Physiology.

In San Mateo county, Cal., where he has lived for years, Juan Patritti is known as "The Man Without a Stomach." Nothing can ever go against Patritti's stomach; nothing has, since a year ago, when that organ was entirely removed.

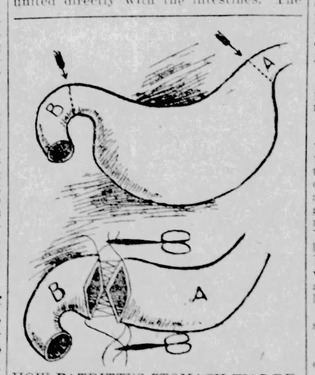
The formula of digestion, familiar to every grammar school boy, will, it seems, bear amendment and still hold good. The gastric juices do not enter, vitally, at least, into the alimentary process, since with his stomach removed Patritti's digests hearty food. He eats beef, mutton, pork, spaghetti, tamales, seasoned with onions and garlic, and drinks a bottle of wine with all, like any other laborer, and suffers no inconvenience.

Thus, whereas nature designed him for a very ordinary person, known to a few fellow workmen, accident has made this humble Italian celebrated; science has written him down a wonder. His case is unique.

It is true there have been a few other cases where patients have lived for several years after the stomach has been removed, but they have been fed peptonized food; the action of the stomach has been counterfeited. Patritti eats and lives the same as he did before the operation. He works as hard as any fellow farmer, follows the plough, drives a milk wagon and does all kinds of laborious work.

Patritti is a dairyman. He is thirty-nine years old. One year ago he was dying of cancer of the stomach. After he had been suffering at his ranch for several months and had found he was unable to do any work, he applied for admission and was received at St. Mary's hospital, in San Francisco. He told the doctors he had always been a well man and a strong one up to the time the strange pains in his stomach had begun.

Dr. George Childs Macdonald diagnosed the case as cancer of the stomach. It seemed as though Patritti was as good as dead, for no one had ever been afflicted thus and lived. Still, as a last resort, it was decided to remove the stomach completely. Dr. Macdonald performed the operation. A quartette of surgeons—Frazer, Kingwell, McMonagal and Bailey—assisted. This elision of the stomach left the œsophagus to be united directly with the intestines. The



HOW PATRITTI'S STOMACH WAS REMOVED.

The letter "A" shows the point of excision at the æsophagus; the letter "B" the severance of the stomach and intestines. The stomach was removed complete and the parts "A" and "B" reunited. The operation was successful, and Patritti digests food without a stomach.

new continuity was effected and the man lived through it all.

From the hospital Patritti went back to his ranch in San Mateo county, and there he has lived and worked ever since. He eats the same kind of food as others in the colony and says he can digest pork as easily as he can chicken. A year ago he did not weigh 100 pounds, and to-day he is within two pounds of his regular weight—135 pounds. A few days ago he told Dr. Macdonald that he was as well as ever he was, but grumbled because he grew tired when he had been ploughing six or seven hours, whereas before his stomach was cut out he could work ten hours.

His Hope.

"It's a great scheme!" exclaimed Farmer Corntossel; "a great scheme."

"What's happenin'?" asked his wife.

"They're buildin' good roads all around Havana. They're goin' at it enthusiastic an' industrious. An' I'm in great hopes that after they git through with good roads in Cuba they'll work around by degrees to the similar needs of some of us folks in the United States."—Washington Star.

A True Friend.

Quizzer—Is he such an enthusiastic wheelman?

Guyer—Enthusiastic? Why, he's actually taken a big house so he can ride the floor at night with the baby.—Kansas City Independent.

A Watery Way.

Mickey the Mouse—What 'cher want wid a bathin' suit?

Burgling Bill—I'm goin' to rob a snobby-un villa, an' I've gotter climb in through the cellar.—Kansas City Independent.

Our New Serial Story.

A STORY OF THE CUBAN REVOLUTION.

The Senora Romana;

Or THE VAMPIRE.

.....BY DAVID LOWRY.

CHAPTER II.—A WORD AND A BLOW.

"Thank heaven the United States can get along without a big standing army. What a contrast Cuba presents to the United States. Everything seems to be decaying here."

"Speak lower, people will hear you."

"And if they do. Can't a man express his opinions here?"

"But is it necessary to attract attention?"

"Is it necessary to muzzle one?"

"It is a question of time and place."

"Precisely. That is why I speak so plain. These people seldom hear the truth. It ought to do them good; but whether it does or not they'll get it from me."

"Have your own way. Only I warn you."

"At the most I suppose I won't do more than fight a duel. If anybody craves that—why, I'll take my chances with pleasure."

"And I'll bank on you every time. But I fail to see the necessity."

"And I had an idea they had superb military roads here. Pooh! And those fellows there; how sickly they look. Most of them seem to be under age."

"They doubtless are."

"The use they are put to seems to be one of the necessities of a decaying civilization, or as the papers say of 'effete monarchial institutions.'"

At that moment a gentleman addressed the speaker.

"You are an American?"

"I am a citizen of the United States."

"As anybody with ears may infer."

"Well?"

"I have heard what you said. I am a Spaniard."

"You are. Who cares what you are. It don't concern me."

"You have insulted me. You have defamed my country as all you Yankees do."

"See here my friend; you are away off the belt there. But if I was a New Englander I'd be proud of it. I don't know any better stock."

"You—you—you quibble. Yes, that is it. You evade the question like all Yankees. You owe me an apology."

"O, bosh! Take a rest. Nobody cares to have anything to do with you."

"You decry our roads, our army—you set yourself up as superior, you Americans who until a few years ago owned slaves."

"Make your little speech."

"I am discharging my duty. I always take pleasure in setting you Yankees right. You pride yourselves on your prosperity. You are superior to men who are made slaves of—isn't that it?"

"Well, although, I don't see that it is any of your business, I reckon that's about the size of it."

"So, for a long time you made slaves of niggers."

"At least we fed them—we did not starve them and murder them by inches."

"Then the stories we hear of burning niggers are lies, eh? Ah! You do not like that. I thought you would not. It is time. And let me tell you more—you owe all to circumstances over which you have absolutely no control. As for instance"—

"As for instance."

"As for instance to your vast unoccupied territory. You have room for expansion, for absorption—for people from all the world. You are not cramped as old world nations are. And you are very young and very green."

"Very."

"The soil is virgin—you have only to plant and the earth blossoms like the rose."

"You are a poet."

"I deal in plain facts. Awhile ago you were telling your friend here that you were dealing in plain facts. It seems then that all you have and all you boast of you really owe to chance—to chance and niggers. You are in debt to the niggers. I have heard—it has never been my fortune to enjoy the hospitality of the Yankees—I read that you have enjoyed leisure while the nigger worked for you. But since we employ the nigger in our way it does not please you Yankees. You assume a moral supremacy. How do you like the picture?"

"When you end your oration I may answer you."

"I am done."

"Then I'll begin by saying you are a damned impertinent man at the start-off. And if you are not an eaves-dropper you are close kin to one. Nobody was talking to you; nobody talked for your special benefit as I am doing now. The sort of logic you rely upon would justify a man in stealing his neighbor's pocketbook or in committing any crime on the calendar. I won't chop logic with you, but I'll tell you what I will do. If you don't go about your business I'll put my finger in your eye or spit in your face."

"Yankee pig!"

The words were no sooner uttered than a terrific blow was heard. The next moment the speaker fell flat on the ground. Blood streamed from his nose and mouth.

Several men near at hand ran and assisted him to his feet.

When he had brushed the dust from his clothes he glared at the man who felled him.

"I demand satisfaction."

"Satisfaction you puppy! Why, bless my soul, nothing would give me more satisfaction in a week than to smash your mouth, run a sword through you or shoot your nose off you conceited ass! I'll go anywhere you want—do anything you ask. Satisfaction! I'll give you satisfaction—glad of the opportunity to demonstrate the superiority of the citizens of the United States over your kidney!"

"That will do Tom. Let us get out of the crowd before the police take us."

Tom Norris permitted his friend to lead him out of the gathering throng, but he could not resist the temptation to say:

"My name's Norris. If you examine the hotel registers you won't have any trouble finding me."

To his disgust, however, he was accosted by a representative of law and order and compelled to appear before a dignitary clothed in brief authority, to whom he found it necessary to detail all that passed. Not only that; he found it necessary to send a note to the United States consul.

By this time the story was all over Havana in various distorted forms. A citizen of the United States—"a Yankee Pig" had applied the most insulting epithets to the glorious Queen of Spain. He had called the noble troops babes pulling babes. He had classed the citizens of Cuba thieves and idlers—the country was unfit for white people to live in. Every man in Cuba was an ass. And when a citizen mildly rebuked him he struck him down with some awful Yankee weapon, disfiguring the citizen for life.

The prison was too good for such people. They should be hanged or shot.

Tom Norris laughed when he was informed that the United States consul was coming to him presently in the private room his friend demanded in vigorous terms, and secured partly by paying the proper person the expected bribe—the friend knew Cuba rule by heart, and Spanish rule better than one man in ten millions, simply because he had served the United States in Madrid, in London and Paris in a diplomatic capacity. What he did not acquire in seventeen or more years wasn't worth knowing when it came to dealing with people regarded as of inferior parts, or in other words known to be lacking in principle.

"Sorry to give you the trouble, general."

"On the contrary, I am glad to be of some service. I knew your father very well indeed, Mr. Norris."

"Yes, I have some recollection of an obligation you placed him under. It was after the battle of Petersburg I believe. When you captured him he had lost his hat. You gave him a new suit of clothes and let him beat you at poker."

"You must remember that we knew each other before the war."

"That is new to me. Well—about this row now. There's nothing in it."

"I judge as much from the statements made by persons who heard most of the talk. Besides, there is Chauncy's statement. His word is sufficient for all purposes. There will be some necessary formalities."

"Of course. I am very comfortable here. If I am rash you ought to hear Chauncy. He sailed into the Dons heavy—it made their eyes stick out. He laid down the law—he really disposed of the case. O, for a fellow that's eternally holding in. Chauncy's a brick. I'm a gentle zephyr besides Chauncy. He said more disagreeable—more hasty things in two minutes than I could conjure up in a lifetime. If I didn't know the situation I would have felt alarmed for him."

General Lee laughed.

"You surprise me. Chauncy seems rather quiet."

"You don't know him. I didn't either until to-day. He is a volcano."

"Do you know anything about Cadarzo?"

"Never heard of him."

"He claims strong connections. He is related to a captain in the navy and has powerful friends in Madrid if he tells the truth."

Norris did not seem to be interested in Cadarzo. He changed the subject, availing himself of the opportunity to compliment General Lee upon the manner he had discharged his duty in Cuba. The general brought Cadarzo up again, however, before he bade Norris good-bye.

"If you are in pursuit of the sword."

"In that case, perhaps, he may teach me some points I don't know. At Heidleburg and Stockholm I had so much conceit that I was in a fair way to contract the swelled head. Bad thing for a young man. But at Tunis an old Turk—he was eighty if he was a day—took the starch right out as they say. But really the best man I ever met with the sword after all was an Irishman living in Paris. A queer genius. Sent to Coventry for something doubtless. Knew every man of prominence in England. Lived in Paris years. A marvel with the sword. He took a strange fancy to me. I learned more from him than from all the teachers I had before we met. And as for shooting, general, I would like you to see me putting six shots inside of a dollar ring at thirty feet with a navy revolver. But really, general, I'd much rather catch the fool one on the jaw, or twist him over my shoulder on his head."

Then they both laughed heartily.

"I'm obliged to you all the same, General, for your concern. Really it's the other fellow that needs your sympathy."

"Possibly, if Cadarzo learned the truth in some way the matter may end, for the present, at least."

The Consul looked at Norris with increasing interest now. He had heard him frequently. His sleight of hand tricks, his running, rowing and leaping—his ability to turn off verses and his feats in the saddle; General Lee had set him down as an assertive, self-confident and rather forward young man. He was self-confident, too, but altogether in a different way from that General Lee had conceived. As he measured him now with a critical eye he admired the splendid physique, the clear skin and clear cut features; he was Tom Norris over again but larger, handsomer and with the level headed look he always had; that made everybody like his father. Certainly nobody could be less obtrusive than this young man. Modest in the real sense of the word; but entirely at ease, with as little self-consciousness as he had ever observed in a young man.

What a contrast he presented to Cadarzo, whom the General had observed. The cocksureness of Cadarzo had always seemed whimsical to the Consul. Norris negligent in dress; Cadarzo always in the extreme of fashion; Norris retiring in manner; Cadarzo forward; Norris suggesting reserve strength; Cadarzo strutting with what he evidently thought was a military carriage—really, thought General Lee, Cadarzo was the man to be pitted if ever these two met in a physical encounter of any kind.

However, his obligations to the dead as well as his duty as the representative of the United States demanded that he should keep himself fully advised concerning Cadarzo's actions. If he sought in any manner to embroil Norris with others more capable of taking up the quarrel, why, then the Consul would know what to do.

While this was passing rapidly through the Consul's mind an officer opened the door and handed Norris a card. Norris turned it over curiously. The officer stood awaiting Norris' pleasure.

"I don't know this man," said Norris in a low tone to the Consul as he held the card in a manner that permitted General Lee to read the name on it. "Do you think I had best see him? If it was New York, Chicago,—any city of the United States, I would know just what to do. I'd call him in, give him a cigar, tell him the facts and leave it to his good sense how to treat the matter for his paper."

"Howard—Howard," the General repeated under his breath. "Howard, George Howard; I don't know him. Do as you think best."

"I'll call him in before you go; you may have seen him. It will do no harm."

The officer was standing as rigid as a post. Norris said in an indifferent manner, "You can send him in."

The General was sitting with his hands resting on his thighs when the visitor entered. As the visitor advanced the General rubbed his lip slowly with a finger; further than this he made no movement. The moment the door closed, however, he cast a sharp look at the visitor, who apparently took no notice of the Consul. He advanced to Norris, saying, "I have called upon you because I have heard some wild stories. If I can be of any use to you, command me. I am like yourself a citizen of the United States. That is my sole excuse for intruding upon you at this time. And I happen to be in a position where I can easily communicate with friends in the United States."

Norris glanced from his visitor to the Consul, then extending a hand to the visitor, he replied:

"General Lee, permit me to introduce Mr. Howard to you."

"I am pleased to meet General Lee," said Howard, as he bowed to the Consul. "Permit me to add, gentlemen, that I am a native of Illinois, Judge Howard, of Chicago, is my uncle."

"Here on business, I presume, Mr. Howard," the Consul answered, then to Norris' great surprise he bent nearer Howard and added in a low tone, "this is rank folly—foolhardiness—Ford. You must go out of the city immediately. Be advised by me in time or you will regret it."

"There is really nothing you can do for me," said Norris. He observed the Consul's glance towards the door; he, too, was mindful of the situation. If there were listeners near they would learn nothing. "But I am obliged to you, Mr. Howard, for your kindness. The fact is, I am rich in friends, as you see. Mr. Chauncey is traveling with he. What more do I want?"

"Not Colonel Tracy Chauncey?"

Norris nodded, smiling.

"In that case—well I am glad to know you are all right, Mr. Norris. They are circulating a lot of rubbish about this—row. I suppose is the proper word."

"That's what they would call it in any city in the United States. Here it is elevated to an international—I'll leave it to General Lee to give it a name." He paused then added significantly, "I am stopping with a friend, Captain Remington, on the Real de la Saludgones not far from the cavalry barracks. Your recontre, by the way, I understand was on the Plaza de San Francisco—it should have been on the Plaza del Vapor."

Whereat they all smiled rather grimly and General Lee glanced at the door. He bestowed a warning look upon Howard, or Ford, since that was his real name. The press in the United States had printed a truthful account of the successful delivery of two thousand guns and 100,000 rounds of ammunition near Matanzas; the authorities were exerting all their power to locate the person who furnished the truth; Ford's presence in Havana at that time seemed nothing short of folly to the consul; naturally he desired nothing more than the correspondent's departure. Ford appreciated the situation, it was impossible for him to explain then how he felt; it incumbent upon him to return to the city—another time would do. He was bowing his best wishes to Norris and the consul when the door was opened suddenly again and the officer in charge announced (this time with a deferential bow),

"SENORA ROMANA."

Ford, who was in the act of retiring, drew back; Senora Romana swept past him without perceiving him apparently and advanced to Norris with outstretched hand.

General Lee bowed in acknowledgement of her presence, then extending a hand to Norris said, "Good-bye for the present."

A marvelously sweet voice fell on his ears.

"Do not let me drive your friends away, Mr. Norris."

There could be no doubt about it. It was the voice of the famous artiste all Havana raved over only last night.

Ford had passed out; the door was still ajar; General Lee bowed again as he replied for his friend.

"I was just on the point of leaving."

The next moment Norris was alone with Senora Romana.

As the consul returned slowly to his quarters he said to himself, "Senora Romana." Norris has been all over the world; naturally he encounters all kinds of people; makes strange acquaintances—and yet, did I not read only the other day that Senora Romana is related to that celebrated general, Romana, who succeeded in escaping from the island of Funen when Napoleon placed his brother on the throne of Spain, and with the assistance of the English effected a landing in Spain with ten thousand troops, carried to Spain in English ships? The same Romana who resisted Napoleon's generals to the last. Nearly all his men perished in the cliffs of Espinosa after the battle. A great granddaughter of Romana's a friend of young Norris."

If General Lee had misgivings it was not to be wondered at. But had he known the truth, that the Senora had spent half an hour with General Weyler before she called upon Norris, and that her visit was prompted by General Weyler, he would have experienced much more concern for the son of his old friend Tom Norris.

CHAPTER III—MORE POWERFUL THAN THE SWORD OR SHOT.

A week before the events narrated in the last chapter occurred, the captain general of Cuba, General Weyler, sat alone in his private office. He glanced alternately at a paper on the table and at vacancy with corrugated brow. The grimness of repressed rage and impatience was expressed in his marked features; at times he tapped the table narrously; then he crossed and re-crossed his legs unwittingly. Altogether he presented the picture of a man ill at ease.

For the tenth time within the past hour he lifted the paper at his elbow, read a few lines, then flung it down angrily. He had reason to feel ill at ease; good reason. The paper beside him was received from the Spanish minister of war. It contained very disagreeable matter. More than a rebuke was implied in the letter (for that was what it was—a letter accompanying an order), addressed to the captain general by his superior, Lieutenant General Correa.

One paragraph in this letter is here reproduced; it was no wonder the captain general was angry, resentful.

"The affair at Victoria is indeed serious. You have seen how the opposition availed themselves of the facts disclosed in the debate—which I need scarcely remind you was unavoidable—but the public prints concern me much less, public clamor concerns all of us much less than the bald fact that Victoria was taken despite your assurance that it was impregnable. Your reports, unfortunately were seen, or sufficient was revealed to the opposition to silence the president of the council. Don Sagasta was reduced to the painful necessity (to him—you can conceive the situation), of requesting his old enemy, Senor Moret, cousin of the minister of the colonies, to move deferment for the present. But after the opposition renewed the debate in other form then, unfortunately Senor Canalejas (editor of El Heraldo), was trapped into a retort, which was met swiftly by a statement made in El Heraldo authorized by you. It is this statement, your own words, in which you assert that Victoria "is invulnerable, since it is defended by seven forts heavily equipped." Two Krupp guns alone, you asserted, were sufficient to hold the insurgents in check until reinforcements arrived. The result of the disclosures has been alarming. This is the most serious blow the government has experienced. And when I add that we are unable to make any explanation of the extraordinary fact that for the first time you permitted the exchange of prisoners after the battle you may conceive the desperate straits we are reduced to. Another experience similar to that of Victoria will, I am compelled to say, diminish the faith heretofore reposed in your judgment."

"Heretofore."

This word stood out in letters of fire among all the rest.

"Heretofore."

So it had come to that. "The minister of war could, under the guise of friendship, while pretending to be his friend, and under a private seal advise him that his faith was diminished."

"But he had only himself to blame." Yes, he was too confident and Gomez and Garcia were too rash. But what had they to risk in comparison. They had not alms similar to those that animated the captain general; they did not make money; they banked altogether on the future, while he, Weyler—well the present was—nobody's business. Only he damned the press of the United States for announcing his income since he came to Cuba—his emoluments and the sums he had banked.

However, it behooved him to counteract the influences he had aroused. On his own as well on the administration account it was necessary that something should be done to divert public attention from Victoria immediately—that was the sole resource left him now. The public was fickle—give them something to talk about they would forget Victoria.

Then his mood suddenly changed.

He would pursue his own course, and the day would come—sooner perhaps than Correa or Sagasta dreamed of when he, Valeriano Weyler would issue orders which Pio Gallon, Segismundo Moret, Allejandro Groizard, Correa, Bermejo, Ruiz-y-Capaepon and Joaquin Puigcerver would only be too glad to obey—all the cabinet would be at his, Valeriano Weyler's feet.

He rung the bell. A door opened.

"Send Joaquin to me."

Scarcely a second elapsed until a man entered the room and stood silently before the captain general. This man would have attracted attention in any crowd.

His features were like a mask, the eyes alone moved. It was as if the man's muscles were carved out of stone or wood or iron. He stood rigid; only the eyes turned as he entered the room. He looked at the captain general fixedly, then at the table.

"You have made the inquiries concerning Senor Martinez?"

"I have."

"Well, go on."

"The senor is in no way related to the artiste. They traveled together. From New York—from San Francisco to Havana. Not as companions, however. She has her servants, two; one French, one Spanish. She occupied her cabin; the gentleman was only a companion by chance—quite platonic—no more. Of that I made sure."

"But, the nativity—the origin?"

"As near as I can made out."

"Are you not sure?"

"I am not sure. Permit me. I have the assurance of Senor Capozzo and Senor Mattao that she is the great grand-daughter of the General Romana. But she does not announce the fact—she does not deny it. I have exhausted all my resources—I am no nearer the truth. The French maid was plied vigorously by Alfonso. That fellow will worm the truth from anything that wears petticoats—I have never known him to fail. He is invaluable. Behind the scenes he rules the manager, the director, the author even. No one can withstand the rascal. I have concluded that Senor Martinez is no more than a friend—I know that he is not her lover."

"How do you know it?"

"There was but one resource left; I was reduced to the necessity of watching her rooms from the hour she entered them. No man has crossed her threshhold."

"Those sources are invaluable."

"And the cost is trifling; a few pinheles, one may say—and the pay of the servants."

"Now, what have you heard? I mean what has she talked about when alone or with her servants?"

"Like all servants hear from artistes: The service is abominable; the food is fit for barbarians; and they are so slow. At other times it is the pests of Yankees—the insolence and ignorance—the grossness of a people who have no past, no history, only a future. Then their ridiculous attempts at art! She was glad to leave New York—glad to get away from San Francisco. She sighs for Spain again. But then one must have the luxuries or one stagnates. Then she sings Spanish songs—seldom French—still less Italian. Yet for the life of me I can not tell which is the more perfect, her French or Spanish and as for her Italian—it rolls off her tongue like water down a fall."

"What! You have listened?"

"In this case I could not trust the servants; I stood near her two hours with my apron on."

"You are invaluable, Joaquin."

"I do my best. Or I have served her with eyes on the promenade."

"Yes?"

"It is a pleasure."

"Very well. Now then, you will send Raphael in."

The man who appeared before the captain general was as unlike Joaquin as nature could mold two men. Whereas, Joaquin was mechanical in his movements Raphael was graceful, easy. He was handsome with a fine color in his cheeks. He had a charming smile, displaying perfect teeth this own, and carried himself like a man wholly at peace with all the world. Somewhat indifferent withal.

"How long have you been on the stage, Raphael?"

"I—It may be nine it may be ten, or eleven years. Since I was nineteen."

"There is no one here—why lie about it?"

"Possibly because it is a habit. Is it a sin to preserve one's secrets?"

"You are forty if you are a day."

Raphael held up his hands.

"Come. In all your gossip what have you heard of the Senora Romana?"

"I faith! That's the least of my knowledge. It may be I have heard of her. I give you my word I can not recall her name. She was not talked of in Paris. Possibly in Italy. You see it is not rare for a fine singer to develop in Italy and all the rest of the world be unaware of it until her friends or teacher chooses to lift the veil. Then, presto! Another wonder. And they often realize the dreams of their friends."

"Be more explicit."

The tone of the captain general was less friendly now. He picked up a pen and jabbed the point into the paper. The singer took his cue at once.

"I never saw her name in print until it was announced in New York. In con-

section with some charity affair. Then I rummaged my memory. It seems like a dream—but there was a Romana who sang often in Madrid. That was several years ago. Much was predicted of her. She received her training in Italy, of course—all great artists do—I was educated there. But what puzzles me is this. I thought she died. It can not be true if this is the same. But I did see it in print that the singer I refer to died—of a dreadful, a loathsome disease—the smallpox."

"You have seen her—you have heard her?"

"As every one in Havana who loves music has."

"You have met her?"

"Only for a moment."

"Have you heard what she thinks of the political situation?"

"She says it is inconceivable how any one can sympathize with a rabble—canaille—ignorant, inconceivably degraded, with low tastes—animals with no ambition above animal wants. O! She is a firm believer in the theory of the survival of the fittest."

The captain general put his hand in a drawer at his right and lifted out a roll.

"Here is some money. You will devise some means—choose yourself—the end is to invent an opportunity to speak to her in the presence of others. When she has committed herself in the way you have described—then address her aside. The others may think you artistes are one—at any rate, the idea is to offer your assistance in case she desires to see me in private.

Raphael elevated his eyes and shrugged his shoulders.

"It is political—she has expressed a desire to serve Spain."

"Oh, in that case, I shall be only too glad to serve you."

"I shall expect her in a day at most. See—here."

The captain general produced a note. The scent of violets rose as Raphael took the dainty note.

"So? Now I understand. You are very prudent."

"See that you are equally—it may be worth more than mere money to you. You would like to live in Madrid? If you had a theatre in your own hand? Well, stranger things have happened. Go. Let me hear from you soon."

The next day Raphael reported the result. He had formed a little party of artists and patrons of the stage. It was a success. He expended half of the money the captain general gave him. Senora Romana availed herself of the first opportunity to inquire if it was true that he was intimate with the captain general, or could influence him. So it proved very easy. And she was to call that afternoon before she went to the theatre.

Of course, Joaquin heard every word that was uttered during this interview. That was his first, his principal business. Every word that was uttered in these private interviews was taken down in short hand and submitted later to his master.

The senora proved to be more beautiful than the captain general had deemed her on the stage. Indeed her chief charms were lessened by distance. She was the soul of intelligence; vivacious, witty, and, best of all, intensely patriotic. Her hatred of the Yankees was something she could not express; then her love of Spain, its glorious past; her remembrance of the great victories that crowned her sailors and soldiers with never-fading glory—her contempt for that upstart Napoleon—all these were manifested in glowing words. She would inspire a regiment.

Raphael left her with the captain general.

"It may be in your power to serve Spain as no other woman has served her," said the captain general artfully.

"Only tell me how."

"You may serve me by ascertaining the facts at Washington and in New York. No one will suspect you. You speak French fluently, and Italian. In New York there must be many in the confidence of the cabinet—financiers—politicians—senators and governors. You can acquire information such as, perhaps, not excepting her diplomats, may pick up through their aids. It may be in your power to ascertain the disposition of their war vessels, the strength of their armies, the time required to mobilize forces. What may you not learn?"

The senora nodded, smiling.

"To say nothing of the enterprises contemplated here—the movements and aims of the junta, in short."

"I left that for you to say. I see I have not overrated your intelligence. And it is also in your power to serve me here."

"In what manner? I assume you must have ample assistance—trustworthy aids here."

"So they think in Spain. And yet I am betrayed frequently. How do you think the insurgents acquired knowledge of my movement on Victoria? I am never sure of my agents—except a few. And that is what I need most. Somebody who can mislead the men who are opposed to me."

The senora compressed her lips.

"Well, if I really thought——"

"Oh, but I know."

The captain general lifted her note from his drawer.

"When I received this six days ago, do you know what I said to myself?"

"Anybody might guess the truth. You said it was from one who was trying to deceive you."

"Quite right. And since?"

"You would not be fit for the high place you occupy if you did not assure yourself that my sympathies are with the government."

"Exactly. Now, I will make my meaning plain. It is in your power to deliver Cuba from the grasp of these wretches, who are unworthy the consideration of educated, self-respecting people. What are they? If they should succeed, what will the future of Cuba be? In a word, you can communicate with the leaders. You can give them information that will mislead them. If it is only the loss of a brigade—see what it may be worth in this crisis."

"Stay! You propose that I shall associate with these—these canaille—these wretches who have brought reproach upon Spain, who have made her a never-ending question of survival—Spain, the nation that once governed the whole world.

"It is a great favor I admit. But think of the great results if you are successful."

"Give me time to think."

"There is no time like the present. Do you know what they are saying in Spain now?"

"There are always faultfinding people."

"If you can serve the government here as well, or better possibly, than you can in New York or Washington, why not do so?"

"I do not see my way so clear."

"See! It is much less difficult than you may think. I give you ample opportunities to enter the insurgents' camp with the odor of suspicion over you. You strengthen this by your actions. When you convince them that you sympathize with them, then you can easily find means to communicate with me. In fine, means of communication will always be left open, for the purpose ostensibly of ascertaining my movements."

"Now I begin to comprehend. But," Senora Romana paused suddenly, "I am an artiste. What motive can I give for—for leaving the stage, for traveling into out-of-the-way places?"

"Is it necessary always to be an artiste?"

"To conceal my identity would be romantic—a romance in reality! I who have always acted romance—I who simulate passion, to live and sleep the life of a passionate—what shall I call myself? A lover of liberty! A woman devoted to the cause of the insurgents! That would be fine. Here in Cuba, too. Not as they do in the salons in New York and Washington. It costs nothing there—while here! Do you know you have half-persuaded me?"

"I leave the decision with you. Yes or no. Will you help me here and now, where I am confident you can do the most good—for the present only?"

"You have convinced me. I have decided. Now give me your orders."

"Say, rather, that I will confide my greatest needs to you."

And then he explained fully and clearly what he required. On her part, the senora gave him her undivided attention. When he ended she drew a long sigh.

"If it could only be accomplished—it would end everything."

"You grasp it. I knew you would. It can be accomplished. I would not occupy your time and mine if there were any doubts."

"Unfortunately, I have made other arrangements. My engagement at the theatre, as all Havana knows, ceases this week. My place is selected—paid for on the steamer."

"Which is fortunate. Since the fact has been announced, I will see to it that you will sail—as far as the public is concerned."

"Really—you ought to be a dramatist. Do you know that is the shrewdest thing of all. The papers will announce my departure—meantime——"

"You are with your friends, the insurgents."

"That determines me quite. And when will I see you again? You may have further orders—I may desire information."

"When you do, my door is always open to you. Any hour you designate—or come or send at will."

And so they parted; the Senora Romana to keep an appointment with a sister artiste, who was in poor health and poor in pocket, the captain general to reprimand a subaltern for gross neglect of duty.

(To be continued.)

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

The Poets Laureate.

"Please tell me what is meant by the poet laureate of England? How long has it been the custom to have one? Give a list of them, if not too long."—L. A. M., Thorn Hill, Ala.

The origin of Poet Laureate in England can not be precisely traced. As kings in ancient times had their jesters, harpers, falconers, etc., the English kings also had their poets. Chaucer was poet laureate to Richard II, and in 1389 he obtained a grant of an annual allowance of wine. The list as far as known definitely is this:

Edmund Spenser, died 1599.
Samuel Daniel, died 1619.
Ben Jonson, died 1637.
Sir William Davenant, died 1668.
John Dryden, 1670 to 1688.
Thomas Shadwell, 1688 to 1692.
Nahum Tate, 1692 to 1715.
Nicholas Rowe, died 1718.
Rev. Laurence Eusden, 1718 to 1730.
Colley Cibber, 1730 to 1757.
William Whitehead, 1757 to 1785.
Thomas Warton, 1785 to 1790.
Henry James Pye, 1790 to 1813.
Robert Southey, 1813 to 1843.
William Wordsworth, 1843 to 1850.
Alfred Tennyson, 1850 to 1892.
Alfred Austin is the present laureate.

Gen. Braxton Bragg.

"Will you please give a short sketch of the late Confederate general, Bragg?"—G. S. Z., Rogersville, O.

Braxton Bragg was born in Warren county, N. Y., March 22, 1817, and died in Galveston, Texas, Sept. 27, 1876. He graduated at West Point in 1837, was appointed lieutenant of artillery, and served mainly in Florida until 1843. He was stationed at Fort Moultrie until 1845, and then ordered to Texas. He was brevetted captain for bravery at Fort Brown; brevetted major for gallant conduct at Monterey, and lieutenant colonel for gallantry at Buena Vista. From 1848 to 1855 he was engaged in frontier service. In 1856 he resigned his commission and returned to his plantation in Louisiana. In 1861 he was appointed a brigadier general in the Confederate service in 1861; in Feb., 1862, made major general, and took part in the battle of Shiloh, after which he was promoted general, in place of Albert Sidney Johnson, who was killed there. In August, 1862, he invaded Kentucky, but was defeated at Perryville and retreated. He commanded the Confederates at Stone River, Chickamauga and Mission Ridge. He was relieved of his command, and became the military adviser of Jefferson Davis at Richmond. After the war he became chief engineer for the state of Alabama, and after that spent his life in retirement.

New Jersey Trusts.

"What party gave the right to form trusts in New Jersey—a Republican or a Democratic legislature?"—E. A. F., Chili, Ind.

You have the wrong idea. It does not require a law authorizing the formation of trusts. All states have laws authorizing the formation of corporations, and a trust is simply a corporation. They can be organized under the laws of any state, but in some states the laws give more liberty to the organization of corporations than those of other states. The two states which have the most liberal laws in this regard are New Jersey and West Virginia. The former is a favorite. New Jersey was a Democratic state until 1896, when the free silver question put her in the Republican column. Her corporation laws were the work of Democratic legislatures, as were those in West Virginia.

Requisites for Admission.

Please tell me how old a person has to be to go to the U. S. Military Academy or the naval academy, and what size they have to be and how they get to go there?"—A. R., Pacific Junction, Iowa.

Appointees to the Military Academy at West Point must be between 17 and 22 years of age, and free from any infirmity which would render them unfit for military service. The physical examination is a severe one. Even bad teeth will bar one.

Appointees to the Naval Academy at Annapolis must be between 15 and 20 years ould, and physically sound, well formed and of robust condition.

The only way to get in either is by the appointment of the Representative from your district in Congress. He appoints one cadet to West Point every four years and one cadet to Annapolis every six years. Consult him about the matter.

Admiral Dewey.

"Has Admiral Dewey been married? If so, where is his wife, and were there any children?"—G. G. K., Castlewood, S. D.

Admiral Dewey has been married, but Mrs. Dewey died a number of years since. They had but one child—George Dewey, jr. He is a young man, aged about 30. He has been for a number of years in the employ of a wholesale house in New York, which deals in prints. Mr. Dewey is now traveling in their employ, selling goods to jobbers and wholesalers.

Simply a Fake.

"Please tell me if there is such an article as a mineral rod, with which any one can locate mineral deposits, such as gold and silver."—R. C., Jayell, Tenn.

There are articles called "mineral rods," sold by swindlers to credulous people. But there is nothing which will indicate the presence of gold or silver—nothing whatever. Neither gold nor silver possesses magnetic powers, hence the pretense of magnetism is a humbug, which can only impose on the ignorant.

Don't Want Poetry.

"I have a large amount of poetry, most of it is of a spiritual nature. Will you publish it for me in the Weekly Blade?"——, Michigan.

We don't want poetry of any kind! The amount of it sent to us all the time is a burden on the editor. Please turn to the 4th page of this paper and read the editorial headed "To Sell Contributions."

Contributions to Periodicals.

"Do editors of newspapers pay for and print essays on different subjects? If so, please state on what terms."——, Illinois.

Very few editors of large newspapers would print "essays" on any subject much less pay for them. Newspaper readers—or very few of them—care for essays. Please turn to the 4th page of this issue and read the editorial article there headed "To Sell Contributions."

Schley's Name.

"I wish you would tell me the correct pronunciation of the name Schley."—S. M., Columbia, Iowa.

Well, we have printed it five times within a year, but here goes again: Rear Admiral Schley pronounces his name "sly." That settles it, for a man has a right to say how his own name is pronounced.

No National Holidays.

"Please tell us, do our holidays exist by national enactment, or only by state laws?"—F. A. C., Gorin, Mo.

All holidays are made such by state laws. Congress has power to enact such legislation for the District of Columbia and for the territories, but not for the states. So we have no holidays made so by national enactment—not even Independence day, the 4th of July.

A Lost Poem.

"I ask for the missing link of a poem, read in childhood, which has haunted me 40 years. A stranger thing is, I have not found any one who remembered it, although I believe it was in a school reader of that time. As near as I can remember it was an address to the soul: 'Go on a fruitless errand; where'er thou goest whate'er thou doest, spare not to give the lie.'"—A. D. H., Atkinson, Neb.

We never heard of the poem. If any reader can answer the query we shall be glad to have it.

Washington's Estate.

"Is there yet any property that belonged to the heirs of Washington that would have descended from the Balls to Washington, but, being leased for 99 years, did not come into his possession, but now belongs to his heirs?"—E. K. B., Clinch, Tenn.

We never heard of any such property, and do not believe any such claim would be valid. All states have a statute of limitation, by which the title to real estate or money becomes unassailable after undisputed possession for a term of years.

Tariff Literature.

"Please tell me where I can obtain tariff literature."—R. M. M., Bonite, Tex.

Write to "The American Protective Tariff League, No. 135, West Twenty-third street, New York City," and ask for a price list of their tariff publications.

Socrates.

"In what age of the world's history was Socrates condemned to drink the poison, for what crime was he condemned to death and in what city did he reside?"—E. R., Brandon, Wis.

Socrates was a Greek philosopher, born near the city of Athens between 471 and 469 B. C., and died in that city in 399 B. C. He was trained as a sculptor, but is known in history as a philosopher. He trained himself to coarse fare, scanty clothing, bare feet and indifference to heat or cold, thus aiming to reduce the number of his wants as a distant approach to the perfection of the gods, who want nothing. He spent his whole life in Athens. He believed he was guided by an internal voice, which he called a "dæmonion"—Greek for demon or genius—which warned him what not to do, but never advised him what to do. He struck out the original path of being an indiscriminate public talker for the sake of instruction. He spent the whole day in public in the walks. The gymnasia, the schools, the porticoes, the workshops and the market place, talking with every one, without distinction of age, sex, rank or condition, discussing any subject with any one anxious to get self-knowledge and awaken the moral consciousness. His custom was, by questions by systematic cross-examination—to convict every one whom he met of ignorance. He exhibited undisguised contempt for the rulers, saying that men who would not trust themselves in a ship with unlicensed pilots, trusted themselves with unlicensed rulers, but wished to become rulers themselves. He thus naturally made himself enemies in every direction and among all classes. Only a decent pretext was needed to bring upon him the vengeance of those in power, and this was found on a charge of impiety. He was accused of worshiping a demon unknown among the gods of Greece, that he attempted the overthrow of political constitution by ridiculing the practice of choosing archons by lot, and that he taught young men the habit of depreciating the entire mode of life of their fathers. He was sentenced to death, and a bowl of hemlock, a poison, was sent him in prison, by the authorities, which he drank.

Thomas Jefferson.

Was Thomas Jefferson the founder of the party known as the Democratic party in 1856?"—A. W. R., Baldwin, N. C.

In the discussions on the framing of the constitution, the people were divided into Federalists and anti-Federalists. The Federalists favored the adoption of the constitution, the anti-Federalists were opposed to it. Their objections were: They feared the United States government would usurp the sovereign powers of the states, and they opposed it because they declared it contained "no bill of rights, no safeguards of liberty." The adoption of the constitution caused them to direct their attention to a strict construction of the provisions of the constitution. Gradually they formed a party opposed to Washington and nearly all the leading statesmen of the time. When the propositions were made to incorporate the United States bank, and to levy an internal revenue tax on whisky, Madison, Jefferson and Randolph opposed these measures as being unconstitutional. A party grew around them, composed of the old anti-Federalists and others, which was first called the Republican party, then the Democratic-Republican party, and eventually the Democratic party. Its opposition to the real supremacy of the national government led to the doctrine of state rights, and the doctrine of secession, thus raising questions which took the civil war to settle. All the issues which then divided the parties are past. None of the issues now claimed as Democratic were in existence in Jefferson's day. Were he living now he would be a protectionist, for he was bitterly opposed to our people using foreign goods. He would not be a free silver man, for he declared the coinage ratio between gold and silver is a purely commercial question and should be settled by the ratio between the market prices of gold and silver bullion.

The Vice-Presidents.

"Please give the names of the vice presidents of the United States."—N. P. H., McAlpin, Fla.

Name—	Took Office.
John Adams	1789
Thomas Jefferson	1797
Aaron Burr	1801
George Clinton	1805
Elbridge Gerry	1813
Daniel D. Tompkins	1817
John C. Calhoun	1825
Martin Van Buren	1833
Richard M. Johnson	1837
John Tyler	1841
George M Dallas	1845
Millard Filmore	1849
William R. King	1853
John C Breckinridge	1857
Hannibal Hamlin	1861
Andrew Johnson	1865
Schuyler Colfax	1869
Henry Wilson	1873
William A. Wheeler	1877
Chester A. Arthur	1881
Thomas A. Hendricks	1885
Levi P. Morton	1889
Adlai E. Stevenson	1893
Garret A. Hobart	1897

William R. King died in Cuba, having taken the oath of office there. He never presided over the senate. John Tyler, Millard Fillmore, Andrew Johnson and Chester A. Arthur succeeded to the Presidency by the death of the President. Thomas E. Hendricks died before his term had expired.

Miscellaneous.

E. B., Jerry Run, W. Va.: We do not know where the machine is made.

S. L. B., Guide Rock, Neb.: We never heard of the book. To ascertain the cost of issuing the work you mention, submit the manuscript to some book publisher. We do not publish books.

FITS

If you suffer from Epilepsy, Fits, Spasms, Spells, Falling Sickness, St. Vitus's Dance, etc., have children, relatives, friends or neighbors that do so, or know people that are afflicted my New Discovery, Epileptiole, will PERMANENTLY CURE them, and all you are asked to do is to send for a FREE Bottle and try it. It has CURED thousands where everything else failed. My 90-page Illustrated Book, "Epilepsy Permanently Cured," FREE. When writing, please give name, AGE and full address. All corraspondence professionally confidential

W. H. MAY, M.D.
May Laboratory, - 94 Pine St., New York City.

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

A more delightful book in the way of reminiscences than the one recently published by Houghton, Mifflin and Company cannot well be imagined. It is named James Russell Lowell and His Friends, and the author is Edward Everett Hale.

Dr. Hale has done far more than to set down what simply concerned Mr. Lowell. Incidentally he has shown us the daily life and characteristics of many other prominent cotemporary people, and, without intending it, none clearer than his own. He has also represented the moving thoughts and sentiments of the years with which the biography is concerned, and shows the spirit of the young manhood of those days. The reader cannot doubt but that the heart of Dr. Hale is in his work, and that it is a loving and reverent recalling of the companions of his youth, most of whom have passed into the sunlight of the Beyond.

The volume is in fine, large print, and profusely illustrated with portraits, fac similes of Mr. Lowell's writings, etc. It is worthy of a place in all libraries, both public and private.

Richard Whiting, in his recent book, No. 5 John Street, presents a picture of London slum life and conditions that is realism itself. There is no rant and no straining after effect in the author's work. The story is told with a simple directness, which, while it bespeaks the author's cleverness, causes the reader to forget any other personality for the time, than those of the figures flashed upon the mental canvas.

No. 5 John Street is published by the Century Company, New York.

Sometimes there is a poem or a story that does not seem to the cool, calm critic to possess any of the quality of genius, and yet which thrills the reading public until its heart is aroused to intense vibration. Such is The Man With the Hoe, by Edwin Markham, who has thus suddenly sprung into the limelight of fame, without, according to some reviewers, having done anything to place him there.

This poem leads in the small volume of Mr. Markham's poems that has recently been published by the Doubleday and McClure Co. The frontispiece is a reproduction of Millet's celebrated painting, which was the inspiration of Mr. Markham in The Man With the Hoe. Most of the poems that follow have appeared in various magazines, from which they have been collected.

Men's Tragedies, by R. V. Risley, is one of The Macmillan Company's notable recent publications. It is fiction, but intended to be taken less from a fictional point of view than from an analytical. In the book are nine tales or sketches—studies of strong emotions, studies of intensity, of which the author says "they are cast in a fictional form solely for the reason that life is not a realized fiction; we do not live essays; fiction is the least unworldly form of literature, the closest to the individual." Each tale has an intention; each of the men involved is intended to express a different character and idea. The tales have a likeness in that each is a tragedy. Not every tragedy is one of blood and physical death, but of the soul rather, and the blight of some hope, some ambition, some love is the consequence, compared to which death would have come as a blessing and a joy.

A pretty little booklet gotten up in the inimitable style that belongs to the Roycroft Shop, Aurora, N. Y., has the title of A Message to Garcia. It appeared first in The Philistine of last March and came from the always brilliant pen of Mr. Elbert Hubbard, and was reprinted in its present form at the request of the business head of a great railroad for distribution among those to whom it might bear a message.

The gist of the "Preachment" is this: When a duty is to be performed, do not stop to ask unnecessary questions and make needless delays, but by concentrating the mind upon its doing, go independently to work and accomplish the task, just as the man Rowan did who was sent to carry a letter to Garcia. Mr. Hubbard with this fact for a text has told some truths for the employed to think over, to digest, and if wise, to make a part of his daily life.

SHAFTER'S HUMOR.

During the Cuban campaign, while the nerve-destroying peace negotiations were in progress and Gen. Shafter was raging on a cot at headquarters, disabled by the gout, a cheeky individual who represented a syndicate of the smaller New England papers one day made a bee-line for Shafter's tent, and, announcing that he had pressing business, was admitted. He found the general sitting on the edge of his cot, with one soldier applying a lotion to his foot and another holding a bag of crushed ice on his head, but nothing daunted, he helped himself to a camp-stool, lit a cigarette, and opened up his notebook.

Shafter glared at him in amazement. "What the blankety-blankety-blank do you want?" he inquired.

"Well, general," replied the correspondent, handing over his card, "I want to get a few of your impressions—I don't care how forcible they are—on the——"

He never got any further. The visitor's offense was so absolutely unprecedented that the old man evidently had difficulty in selecting the proper epithets for the occasion.

Suddenly, however, his face relaxed and he chuckled grimly. "Orderly," he said, "this young gentleman wants to get a few of my most forcible impressions. I'm sorry I can't accommodate him, on account of my feet, but if he ever attempts to come in here again I wish you would see that he gets a few impressions where they will do him the most good. Let them be forcible, orderly—very forcible."

The exit of the visitor was like the disappearance of the harlequin in a pantomime. He gave a sort of lunge and vanished.—The Argonaut.

"Trust not to appearances," but put your faith in Hood's Sarsaparilla, which never disappoints. It is the best medicine money can buy.

Fitted.

"I think that I am peculiarly fited to be a moralist," he remarked, as he half closed his eyes and put the tips of his fingers together.

"Indeed?"

"Yes. I can see evil at a glance where most people would scarcely suspect its existence.—Washington Star.

DO YOU FEEL THIS WAY.

Do you feel all tired out? Do you sometimes think you just can't work away at your profession or trade any longer? Do you have a poor appetite, and lay awake at nights unable to sleep? Are your nerves all gone, and your stomach Has ambition to forge ahead in the world left you? If so, you might as well put a stop to your misery. You can do it if you will. Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery will make you a different individual. It will set your sluggish liver to work. It will get into every vein in your body and purify your blood. It will set things right in your stomach, and your appetite will come back. If there is any tendency in your family toward consumption, it will keep that dread destroyer away. Even after consumption has almost gained a foothold in the form of a lingering cough, bronchitis, or bleeding at the lungs, it will bring about speedy cure in 98 per cent. of all cases. It is a remedy prepared by Dr. R. V. Pierce, of Buffalo, N. Y., whose *advice is given free* to all who wish to write him. His great success has come from his wide experience and varied practice.

O. S. Copenhaver, Esq., of Mount Union, Huntingdon Co., Pa. (Box 222), writes: "About twelve years ago I was suddenly taken with a pain in the pit of the stomach which was so violent I could not walk straight. It would grow more severe until it caused waterbrash and vomiting of a slimy yellow water. A physician told me I had a form of dyspepsia and treated me for about six months with but little benefit. Another physician told me my liver was out of order and that I had indigestion. He gave me a treatment and I got some better but only for a short time. I then tried another one, who said I had chronic indigestion, ulceration of the lining of the stomach, torpid liver and kidney affection. He treated me for more than a year and I felt much better, but it did not last. I then took to using several widely advertised patent medicines, but received no more than temporary relief. I then tried Dr. Pierce's medicines, using his Golden Medical Discovery and the 'Pleasant Pellets,' and in two months' time I was feeling better than I had for years before."

Don't be wheedled by a penny grabbing dealer into taking inferior substitutes for Dr. Pierce's medicines, recommended to be "just as good."

COMFORT OF ARMIES.

An invention that will add much to the comfort of armies in the field is a bakery on wheels, a design of E. M. Sjoholm of Stockholm, Sweden.

A small box under the wagon holds the

A BAKERY ON WHEELS.

fire and the heat passes back and forth through lines of tubing before it escapes. Great economy of space and intense heat are thus secured.

LINCOLN'S CLIENT.

William (alias "Duff") Armstrong died a few days ago at Ashland, near Springfield, Ill. In 1857 Armstrong took part in a drunken midnight brawl at a camp-meeting, in which affair Preston Metzker was killed. Abraham Lincoln defended Armstrong and cleared him by the intro-

"DUFF" ARMSTRONG.

duction in court of an almanac, proving that there was no moon on the night of the killing, thus impeaching the evidence of the star witness for the prosecution. "Duff" Armstrong proved himself, in his after life, to be worthy of the friendship of Lincoln. He died a good man.

A Romance of Real Life.

The Duchess of Arcos was Virginia Woodbury Lowery, of Washington, D. C. A distinguished ancestor, Daniel Woodbury, of New England, once held the position of secretary of the treasury under Jackson, and was afterwards a justice of the supreme court. Montgomery Blair, a cabinet officer during the administration of Lincoln, was of the same family.

The romantic courtship of the Duke and Duchess of Arcos began over twenty years ago. At that time he was young Count Brunetti of the Spanish legation in Washington, an under secretary, whose admiration for the beautiful Miss Lowery, resulted in an engagement, to which the parents objected on account of the youth of their daughter, and the fact that Count Brunetti was appointed to a remote South American post, where months were required to send a communicatin.

The engagement was of eighteen years' duration, and Count Brunetti in that time inherited estates and a title in Spain. When he returned to Washington he found Miss Lowery even more beautiful in her maturity than when he had left her. Mrs. Lowery, who was an invalid, died shortly before the wedding of her daughter, which occurred in August, 1895, at the summer home of the family in New London, Connecticut, and was quietly celebrated.—Harper's Bazar.

A Mission Worker's Weak Attempt.

Perhaps the worst recorded attempt at an escape from a conversational difficulty was made by a London East End curate who specially cultivated the friendship of the artisans. One day a carpenter arrived in his room, and producing a photograph said: "I've brought you my boy's likeness, as you said you'd like to have it."

Curate (rapturously)—How awfully good of you to remember! What a capital likeness! How is he?

Carpenter—Why, sir, don't you remember? He's dead.

Curate—Oh, yes, of course, I know that. I mean how's the man who took the photograph?—San Francisco Argonaut.

Hard On the Protestants.

Father O'Leary, a well known Catholic priest and wit, was on very friendly terms with his neighbor, the Church of England vicar. They met on the road one day, when the vicar said excitedly: "Oh, Father O'Leary, have you heard the awful news?"

"No," says the priest, "what is it at all?"

"Something awful, says the vicar; "the bottom has fallen out of purgatory, and all the Catholics have tumbled into hell."

"Oh dear, oh dear," says Father O'Leary, "what a crushing the poor Protestants must have got."

A Shaker Preacher.

"Brethren and sisters," said the Shaker preacher, "I have a few remarks to make this evening on the subject of the sin of pride. Pride, my friends, is a very bad thing. It is a thing that we should all avoid. Pride, my friends, is a thing that we should all shun. Pride, my friends, is a thing that we should all——"

"Say, Hiram," whispered Brother Ephraim, "I'm proud I don't wear a hat."

Fashion Notes.

Fashion Notes.—Mrs. Fangle—"Do you think I look well in this hat?" Mr. Fangle—"Yes, my dear, I think you look well in any

The Samoan Islands and Their People

By Lyman Horace Weeks and Will M. Clemens.

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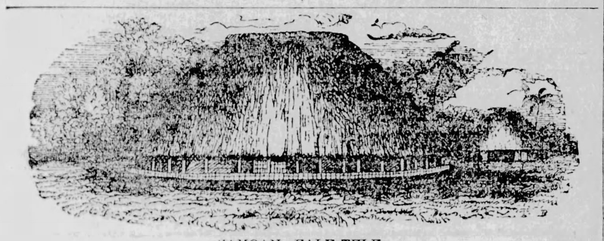
FIFTH PAPER.

Contemporaneous History of Samoa.

In 1839, the famous expedition of Commodore Charles Wilkes, of the United States navy made the first thorough survey and exploration of the principal islands of the group. Commodore Wilkes also appointed a consul to represent the United States and took measures to insure amicable relations in the future between the islands and the United States. This agreement was really the beginning of treaty connections between the Samoans and the outside world.

During the third of a century following, the islanders had a very friendly disposition toward the United States and they began to look to this country for the protection that they felt they needed. Their aspirations in this direction finally culminated in petition from the chiefs to the President of the United States asking for annexation. A special ambassador was sent to Washington with this petition, but the United States did not look upon the proposition favorably.

Attention having thus been again called to the islands, Captain Richard W. Meade of the United States navy, commanding the man-of-war Narragansett, in the following year visited the Island of Tutuila, his appearance there proving to be an epoch making event in Samoan history. He entered into an agreement with Mauuga, the great chief of Tutuila, by which the exclusive privilege of establishing a naval station at Pango-Pango harbor in the dominions of that chief, in return for protection of those



SAMOAN FALE-TELE.

dominions, was conferred upon the United States. The action of Commodore Meade was substantially indorsed by the administration at Washington.

Thus, the position of the United States in Samoa was firmly fixed and the prize coveted by other nations was captured. Within a year, both the British and the German consuls recognized the full value of this concession to the United States and made efforts to secure similar privileges for their nations. The right of the United States to the coaling station in Pango-Pango harbor has, from that time to the present, not been seriously disputed by any one.

Shortly after Captain Meade's visit to Samoa, Colonel A. B. Steinberger appeared there as an agent of the United States. He was sent out by President Grant in the summer of 1873 to examine the country and study its commercial possibilities. During the nearly two months that he remained in the island, he displayed great activity and made a distinctly agreeable impression upon the natives and the foreign residents generally.

Returning to the United States in December, 1873, and making his report to the state department, Colonel Steinberger was again commissioned, just a year later, to make a second visit to Samoa as a special agent of the United States. He had already, on several occasions, urged the administration at Washington to extend a protectorate over the group and, failing in that, had asked that he should be sent back with special diplomatic powers that should give him precedence over American and other consuls.

Steinberger returned to Samoa in state. The flagship Pensacola conveyed him to Honolulu, where he was transferred to the United States ship Tuscarora, Commander Henry Erben. In March, 1875, the Tuscarora arrived at Apia and was joyfully welcomed by the Samoans. A reception was convened on April 22, when the United States commissioner delivered to King Malieton Laupepa the letter and the various gifts that had been sent to him by President Grant. A new flag had been brought out for the Samoan government and, upon the suggestion of Steinberger, it was adopted as the national emblem by this conference. The flag consisted of seven stripes, red and white, each representing an island, and a white star in a blue ground, typifying the governing Island of Upolu. The flag was hoisted in the public square and saluted with twenty-one guns by the Tuscarora, while the foreign officials were notified of

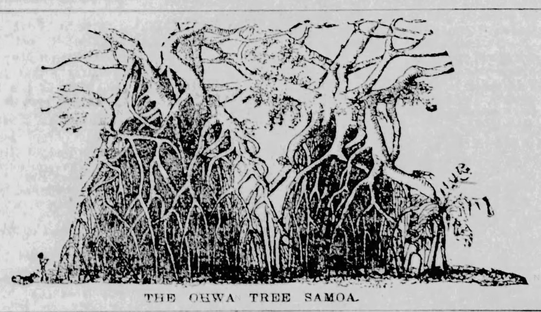
HARBOR OF PAGO-PAGO, TUTUILA, ONE OF THE SAMOAN ISLANDS.

the action of the government. The chiefs draftd a letter to President Grant, in which they expressed their thankfulness for the kind consideration of the United States and their rejoicing over the return of Colonel Steinberger.

Proceeding immediately to take an active interest in the adjustment of Samoan affairs, Steinberger, by reason of his energy, and the notable favor with which he was regarded by the people, soon came to be the most influential man in the community. During his absence, the Samoans had selected two persons, Malietoa Laupepa and Pulepule, whom they jointly vested with the office and title of king. Steinberger persuaded them that it was impracticable to have two kings and, following his advice, they selected Malietoa Laupepa for the position. Steinberger became premier, or counselor to the king, an office that had been created under the new constitution, undoubtedly for him expressly.

As was subsequently discovered from Steinberger's private papers, he had, at the same time that he was the special agent of the United States, a secret agreement with the great mercantile house of J. C. Godeffroy & Son, of Samoa and Hamburg, by which he was to use the influence of his position as commissioner would give him, to advance the mercantile interests of that firm. President Grant and Secretary Fish were, of course, wholly unaware of this agreement when Col. Steinberger's appointment was made.

By the articles of this contract, he engaged to, "identify the interests of the Samoan government with the Godeffroy establishment" and to have the government establish taxation in various forms to be payable in copra, cocoa fibre or other articles of export, all of which should be sold to the Godeffroys. He further contracted to see that the Samoan government should exempt all improved and cultivated land from taxation for a period of ten years, which meant the land owned by the Godeffroy company. He also agreed to see that the Samoan government should grant a monopoly of certain exports to the



THE OLWA TREE SAMOA.

Godeffroy establishment; make the firm the bankers and fiscal agents of the government and give it the privilege of coining money and establishing a government bank. For these services he was to receive $2 per ton on all copra and fibre sold by the Samoan government to J. C. Godeffroy & Son and a commission of 10 per cent on all other produce sold by the government to the Godeffroys and the same commission upon all purchases made by the government from the same firm.

The Godeffroy firm which thus came so conspicuously before the public eye when its peculiar contract with Col. Steinberger was revealed, has, for nearly half a century, played an influential part in Samoan affairs. Ever since its establishment, in 1857, business in Apia, and consequently in Samoa, has had its beginning, its middle and its end in this famous commercial house.

In 1880 the Godeffroy firm went down with a crash. Of all the different ventures that the firm was interested in, the South Sea enterprise was discovered to be the one that was most profitable. Under the encouragement of Bismarck a new concern was organized to take over the old business. The political side of the case was made more prominent than ever before, and the establishment was put on its feet with the frank acknowledgment that its greatst work would be the maintenance of the German flag in the Pacific.

Since its reconstruction the firm has been largely controlled by the German emperor, and its affairs directed, so far as possible, for purposes of state. An unknown amount of its stock is controlled by the imperial will of the German ruler, either standing in his own name or in that of members of his household. It receives an unknown subsidy every year from the German government in some obscure item of the extension of the colonial empire.

The firm makes itself felt in the latter day politics of Samoa, persistently, even if less effectively, than in the past. It is the center of all Samoan trouble. Trace to its source any insurrection against the established government or the British and American interests, and you will surely come to the German firm and generally by way of the German consul. Its record has been one of constant and acknowledged effort to bring Samoan affairs under its control and subservient to German influence. Its insidious scheming in ways that not always come to light have been to the same end. It has ever been animated by the one spirit of hostility for everything non-German. For years it has been the staiking horse of the imperial government, from behind which the hunter has hoped to bag a German protectorate or annexation of Samoa.

For little more than six months Steinberber maintained himself in power with varying degrees of success. Finally, however, his controversies with the consular and other foreign authorities reached an acute point. United States Consul S. S. Foster was particularly active in opposing the premier and in the end brought about his downfall. It was charged that he had violated many of the laws of the island, and particularly had transcended the authority granted him by the United States. Through the influence of the United States and British consuls, King Malietoa was persuaded to depose him and to request that he be expelled from the islands, which was done.

A Story of Sterility, SUFFERING AND RELIEF.

[LETTER TO MRS. PINKHAM NO. 69,186]

"DEAR MRS. PINKHAM—Two years ago I began having such dull, heavy dragging pains in my back, menses were profuse and painful, and was troubled was leucorrhœa. I took patent medicines and consulted a physician, but received no benefit and could not become pregnant. Seeing one of your books, I wrote to you telling you my troubles and asking for advice. You answered my letter promptly and I followed the directions faithfully, and derived so much benefit that I cannot praise Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound enough. I now find myself pregnant and have begun its use again. I cannot praise it enough."—MRS. CORA GILSON, YATES, MANISTEE, MICH.

"Your Medicine Worked Wonders."

"I had been sick ever since my marriage, seven years ago; have given birth to four children, and had two miscarriages. I had falling of womb, leucorrhœa, pains in back and legs; dyspepsia and a nervous trembling of the stomach. Now I have none of these troubles and can enjoy my life. Your medicine has worked wonders for me."—MRS. S. BARNHART, NEW CASTLE, PA.

THE BOY'S IDEA.

Too Much Was Expected for Two Dollars a Week.

A down-town merchant, finding himself in need of the services of a boy in his establishment, put a card in his window bearing the usual inscription, and though many had called in response to it, none had been chosen up to 3 o'clock in the afternoon. At that hour a little, wiry chap of twelve summers, with sharp eyes, a foxy nose with freckles on it, and a sandy suit of hair, came in and asked about the sign in the window. He was escorted to the manager of the boy department.

"We want a boy," said the manager, looking him over critically.

"I'm a boy," the youngster explained, briefly.

"What can you do?" inquired the manager.

"Most anything, I guess, that a boy can do around. I have been working for more than a year now."

"Where?"

"In Mr. Blank's place. You know he's broke up."

"Well, we want a boy, but so far we haven't been able to find what we are looking for."

"We want a boy that is honest, industrious and diligent. He must always be on time, and must not run on the streets, nor play marbles for keeps, nor tell stories, nor smoke cigarettes, nor fight other boys, nor play ball on Sunday, nor use bad language, nor play tricks on the other boys in the store, nor get into any kind of mischief during business hours. He must be neat in his appearance, his clothes must be kept tidy at all times, his face and hands be clean and his shoes be well shined. In addition——"

"Hold on, mister," interupted the youthful applicant; "you ain't lookin' for a boy; you're lookin' for a Sunday school song, and I guess I won't suit. So long." And the boy went out whistling "Break the News to Mother."

NEW CITIZENS EXAMINED

Passed Because of the Cleverness of Their Replies.

A keen-witted fellow, despite his general ignorace, was brought down to the court house in Cleveland to receive the rights of citizenship.

"Name the capital of the nation," said the judge. The applicant scratched his head.

"I can't just place it, judge," he said; "but you'll name over a few of the towns and I'll tell you when you strike it."

"Is it Chicago?" queried the judge.

"No."

"It is St. Louis?"

"No."

"Is it Indiana?"

"No."

"Is it Arizona?"

"No."

"Is it Washington?"

The candidate looked puzzled. He hesitated.

"Say, judge," he slowly replied, "if thet ain't th' place it's a dum close shot!"

He got his papers.

Another candidate was brought in by a well known local politician.

"Let me see what you know about geography," said the judge; "supposng you and Mr. Blank walked straight down to the lake and started across it, going due north; where would you land?"

"On the bottom," said the candidate promptly. He got his papers, too.—The San Francisco Argonaut.

BOOK DIDN'T GO.

Second-Hand Man Added Insult to the Author's Injury.

"I hadn't made anything out of my novel," said the author, as he choked back a sigh, "but that was the publisher's fault, of course. Had he spent $500 in advertising it, the book would have gone like smoke. I was hugging the delusion, however, that some 5,000 readers had been made brighter and better by my book, when I wandered into a second-hand bookstore. After a look around and a seeming effort to remember, I said to the man:

"'I dropped in to see if you had a popular novel entitled "Lights and Shadows."'

"'When was it popular?' he asked.

"'But I've heard it well spoken of.'

"'Must have been by a fool then. That book fell as flat as a pancake.'

"'But could you get me a copy?'

"'For sure.'

"'At how much?'

"'Well, I have 450 of 'em stacked up under that counter, and you can take as many as you can carry for a quarter.'

"I was hurt, of course," said the author, "but I felt like making one more effort. I took one copy and handed him a quarter and asked if he had ever met the author.

"'Never,' he replied, as he pocketed the coin, 'and I never shall. After writing the last chapter of that book he went to a lunatic asylum and butted out his brains against a feather pillow.'"

Impossible.

"These Americans won't meet us half way," said the Filipino discontentedly.

"No," answered the general. "We've both been travelling in the same direction. They couldn't."—Washington Star.

Street Car Anxiety.

"There are two kinds of trolley faces."

"What are they?"

"The one we wear when we want to get on and the one we wear when we want to get off."—Chicago Record.

"For the Sake of Fun, Mischief is Done."

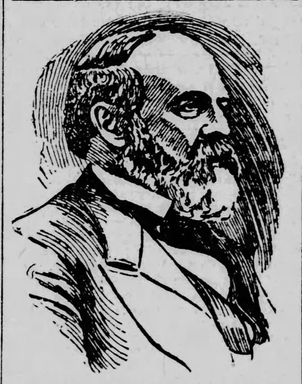
A vast amount of mischief is done, too, because people neglect to keep their blood pure. The mischief appears in eruptions, dyspepsia, indigestion, nervousness, kidney diseases, and other ailments. This mischief, fortunately, may be undone by the faithful use of Hood's Sarsaparilla, which cures all diseases originating in or promoted by impure blood.

HOOD'S PILLS cure all liver ills. Non-irritating.

C. P. HUNTINGTON.

Sketch of the Career of the Pacific Railway Magnate.

For 40 years C. P. Huntington—he is generally known by his initials, for he has a strange aversion to writing his full name—has been extending his railroads, beginning at the Central Pacific in its



COLLIS POTTER HUNTINGTON.

infant stage, and ending only at the complete system which carries you across the northern Rockies and back though the tallest of the range in the same way.

It is doubtful if, when in 1849, young Huntington started for the California gold country, he had any idea he would succeed. Only 28 years old, with a slender purse, he started out to make his fortune. He was very engaging, and soon formed the acquaintance of one Leland Stanford, a young fellow about his age. Leland Stanford knew a young fellow named Mark Hopkins, and Mark Hopkins was acquainted with an energetic fortune-seeker named Crocker.

The four, C. P. Huntington, Leland Stanford, Mark Hopkins and Charles Crocker, trudged across the country to California, and there talked of their hard journey. They conceived the idea of the Central Pacific, and they set to work to dig gold out of the ground with which to build a railroad to connect the Atlantic and Pacific—a scheme which, in those days, was considered the wildest dream a vagrant fancy could conceive.

But the Central Pacific was conceived and built and it made millions. Then the four partners, now rich beyond the dream of avarice, parted, Sanford to Washington; Huntington to identify himself with St. Louis and New York; Hopkins to retire to his magnificent country home in the Berkshires; and Charles Crocker to remain in California to instruct his sons in the art of keeping a fortune together.

Mr. Huntington's immediate family consists of Mrs. Huntington, who is a remarkably handsome woman of middle age, and relatives who act as companions to his wife. His pursuits are, when indoors, those of reading and attending to his correspondence; out-doors, that of looking after his country estate.

INDIANS CAPTURE A SAFE

Disgust of Some Apaches With $7,000 In Their Possession.

"The Indians had a hard nut to crack when they got hold of our paymaster's safe," said the ex-sergeant of cavalry who was asked about his experiences in Arizona. "On this particular trip I was detailed with six men to escotr him. He and his clerk rode in an ambulance drawn by mules, and of course the escort was mounted. We were in camp one night between two forts, when we were jumped by at least 100 Indians. They killed two men before we got out, and of course the ambulance was left in their hands.

"The paymaster's safe contained about $7,000 in greenbacks. It weighed something like 400 pounds and worked with a combination. None of the redskins had ever examined one at close quarters before, but they all knew what it was hauled about from post to post for, and of course they were anxious to get hold of the money. They first pounded off the knob with stones, thinking the door could then be pried open. It was a failure, of course, and then they tried their tomahawks on the chilled steel, hoping to cut a hole in it. They had seen iron softened by fire, and the third move was to give that safe a three hours' roasting. Luckily for Uncle Sam it was fireproof. They threw big rocks upon it while it was still hot, and it was dented here and there, but they were as far from the money as ever. After working away for a night and a day the safe was dragged up the side of a mountain and tumbled over a precipice 200 feet high. They expected to see it burst open, but they only damaged it done was to break one of the wheels off. It was left lying where it fell for three or four days, and the gang then turned and carried it to the river and let it soak for a whole week. It was thought that this would soften it up, and great was their chagrin when baffled again. Then they tried gunpowder, but knowing nothing of blasting they brought about an explosion which burned half a dozen warriors and left the safe good as ever.

"The warriors were fooling with that strong box for a month or more. They roasted it again, and they gave it another fall, and no burglars ever worked harder to get at the long green. They failed to get at the inside, however, and in disgust they tumbled it into a deep ravine and left it. It was fourteen months later that peace came, and we accidentally got track of the safe. An ambulance and a guard were sent for it, and we found it lying in the bed of a creek, with a great pile of driftwood piled around it. It was a lonesome-looking old safe, as you may suppose, and nobody had the slightest hope that the money had escaped the fire and water. When we got it to the fort and blew the door off we found the $7,000 as snug as you please. Some of the bills were a little tender from the heat, and some had grown moldy from the water, but Uncle Sam redeemed every dollar, and the paymaster was made happy again. When them Apaches heard of our getting the money, one of them, who had worked hardest on the safe, growled at me:

"White man some fool. Indian more fool, and iron box great big damn fool.—New York Sun.

Different.

"Say," said the gentleman with the check shirt, plaid suit and thunderous diamonds, "if you will go with me, I've got a guy that we can work for a co uple of thousand in a poker game, and you can have half."

"Sir" replied the young lawyer, "this is a personal insult!"

"Excuse me," continued the wily tempter, "of course, I didn't mean this here as a personal affair. We will call it retaining you professionally."

"Er—how much did you say he had?"—Indianapolis Journal.

Counted Him.

"I am taking a religious census for our church," said the young woman at the door.

"I don't expect to live here any longer than this week," said the man who had answered the door.

"Oh well, that makes no difference. I'll take your name, anyhow. The one who brings in the biggest list gets a prize."—Indianapolis Journal.

Evidently.

"Well, what do you think of Chicago?"

"It's a wonderful town. So swift, so sure, such amazing results. It's full of fresh young blood."

"Say, you must have spent all your time in the stockyards."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Logic of Youth.

Tommy (gazing at the statue of Venus of Milo)—I wish I'd been Venus' little boy.

Mamma—Why?

Tommy—'Cause she couldn't have spanked me.—Harper's Bazar.

The Sunday School.

LESSON 13, JUNE 25, 1899.

Second Quarterly Review.

1. THE RAISING OF LAZARUS.

I am the resurrection and the life.—John 11:25.

2. THE ANOINTING IN BETHANY.

She hath done what she could.—Mark 14:8.

3. JESUS TEACHING HUMILITY.

I have given you an example.—John 13: 15.

4. JESUS, THE WAY AND THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE.

Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth and the life.—John 14:6.

5. THE COMFORTER PROMISED.

I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter.—John 14:16.

6. THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES.

I am the vine, ye are the branches.—John 15:5.

7. CHRIST BETRAYED AND ARRESTED.

He is despised and rejected of men.—Isa. 53:3.

8. CHRIST BEFORE THE HIGH PRIEST.

He came unto his own, and his own received him not.—John 1:11.

9. CHRIST BEFORE PILATE.

I find no fault in him.—John 19:4.

10. CHRIST CRUCIFIED.

The Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.—Gal. 2:20.

11. CHRIST RISEN.

Now is Christ risen from the dead.—1 Cor. 15:20.

12. THE NEW LIFE IN CHRIST.

Let the peace of God rule in your hearts.—Col. 3:15.

13. REVIEW.

This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptation, that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.—1 Tim. 1:15.

The Intermediate Teacher's Review.

This review may well include our six months' study upon the life of Christ, using the review Golden Text as a basis for the study.

Faithful is the Saying.—The statements are many, and, indeed, worthy of belief, telling that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. Let us review some of the sayings in previous lessons which prove this. When two of his disciples were with John the Baptist, and he saw Jesus walking, whom did he teh them to "behold?" In the name, "Lamb of God" was the truth that lambs on altars of sacrifice for centuries had been types of the One who had come to be the true sacrifice? When Andrew understood, and went to bring his brother Simon, whom did he say they had found? What is the meaning of "Messiah?" Philip found Nathaniel. What did he say of Jesus of Nazareth? What did John, an eye-witness, say Jesus manifested in Cana of Galilee? The disciples believed on him. Their faith was strengthened when they saw the "sign" that none but a Creator could give. Jesus himself left many words, spoken at different times and places, which prove his coming into the world. When and where did Jesus say of himself, "he that descended out of heaven, even the Son of Man, which is in heaven?" It was also to Nicodemus he foretold the cross. How did he say the Son of man should be lifted up? What reason did he give why God gave his only begotton Son? Jesus made it very palin to Nicodemus and to all the world that "the world should be saved through him." What did Jesus offer to the woman at Jacob's well? When she talked of the Messiah to come, how did Jesus reveal himself to her? To whom did the woman talk of Christ, and they said, "This is indeed the Saviour of the world?" For what does our Golden Text say Jesus came into the world? How did Jesus say?—By coming to the world, by his life on earth, and in his death. By his works and by his spoken words he taught how to be saved. What were some of his works of healing the body, which taught that he could cure sin-sick souls? How did he explain his words, "I am the bread of life?" Read John 6:35-40. At what feast did he teach of "the water of life?" What was his call to every soul longing for forgiveness and peace? In what public places were some of his words of invitation given? How did he teach of the Good Shepherd? Which lesson proved Jesus to be the resurrection and the life? How did Jesus show a spirit of meekness and humility when he said, "I have given you an example?" Where was his last talk with his disciples, when he said, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life?" How did he teach of the union of heart and life between himself and his disciples?

Jesus saved by his suffering and his death.—Where, and for what time of trial, was he in an agony of prayer? Did his chosen disciples comfort his sorrow? How did his prayer show submission to his Father's will? How did his Father show sympathy in his agony? Who "knew the place," and came with a band of soldiers and officers into the garden? By whom, and how, was Jesus betrayed? When Jesus was seized and bound, to whom was he first taken? How was he treated in the palace of the high priest? Where were the disciples at that time? By whom was Jesus forsaken? By whom denied? Were the sanhedrim able to prove anything against Jesus? Before what Roman governor was Jesus taken for trial? Did Pilate find him guilty of any crime? What had the Jews charged against Jesus? When Pilate offered to set free one of two prisoners, which one was rejected? Why was Pilate willing to deliver Jesus to be scourged and crucified, when he repeated, "I find no crime in him?"

Jesus saved sinners by his death on the cross. At what hour on Friday morning was Jesus lead out bearing his cross? Was it because his enemies pitied him that Simon was made to help him bear the rough weight? Were others crucified with him? What title had Pilate put over the cross? How was Jesus mocked? Did Jesus speak while he hung there? The seven sayings from the cross may be repeated, if familiar, or given with their connection now as part of the review. At what hour did Jesus die? Recall the burial, the new tomb, the resurrection, the proofs that the Lord had risen indeed. The apostles in his name preached of salvation through faith in a risen Christ. They said, "We have beheld and bear witness that the Father had sent the Son to be the Saviour of the world," and "whosoever should call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved." Peter preached, "in none other is there salvation; for neither is there any other name under heaven; that is given among men, whereby we must be saved." Peter said that Jesus, after he was raised up on the third day, charged his disciples to preach in his name, that "through his name every one that believeth in him shall receive remission of sins." Paul wrote of "the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself up for me." And again, "while we were yet sinners Christ died for us." Faithful and true are the witnesses of Christ the Saviour who is "longsuffering to you-ward, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."—Faith Latimer in S. S. Times.

No Love Lost.

"Are you a lover of the national game?" he inquired as they passed into the ball ground.

"No, sir," replied the person addressed, "I'm a base ball umpire."—Philadelphia North American.

Was an Unscrupulous Doctor.

He—I am really surprised at Dr. White. After being our family doctor for years, and treating me for all sorts of things, and to think of all the money we've paid him, too!

She—What has he done?

He—He wouldn't pass me for the life insurance company!—Tit-Bits.

Trial Package Free!

If any reader, suffering from rheumatism, will write to me, I will send them free of cost a trial package of a simple and harmless remedy which cured me and thousands of others, among them cases of over 40 years standing. This is an honest remedy that you can test before you part with your money. Address JOHN A. SMITH, 143 Summer-field Church Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

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shipped in plain packages.

We guarantee above firm will do as they agree.—Ed.

SOME FAMOUS TOASTS.

Our Country, may she always be in the right—but Our Country, right or wrong.—Stephen Decatur.

Here's a sigh to those who love me,
And a smile to those who hate;
And whatever sky's above me,
Here's a heart for every fate.
Were't the last drop in the well,
As I gasped upon the brink,
Ere my fainting spirit fell,
'Tis to thee that I would drink.
—Lord Byron.

Here's to the maiden of bashful fifteen;
Here's to the widow of fifty;
Here's to the flaunting, extravagant queen,
And here's to the housewife that's thrifty!
Let the toast pass;
Drink to the lass;
I'll warrant she'll prove an excuse for the glass.
—Sheridon.

Drink to fair woman, who, I think,
Is most entitled to it;
For if anything ever can drive me to drink,
She certainly could do it.
—B. Jabez Jenkins.

Drink to-day and drown all sorrow;
You shall perhaps not do't to-morrow;
Best while you have it, use your breath;
There is no drinking after death.
—Beaumont & Fletcher.

Here's to those I love;
Here's to those who love me;
And here's to those who love those I love,
And here's to those who love those who love me.
—Favorite Toast of Ouida.

Sparkling and bright in the liquid light,
Does the wine our goblets gleam in;
With hue as red as the rosy bed
Which a bee would choose to dream in.
Then fill to-night, with hearts as light
To loves as gay and fleeting
As bubbles that swim on the beaker's brim,
And break on the lips while meeting.
—Charles Feno Hoffman.

Drink to me only with thine eyes,
And I will pledge with mine;
Or leave a kiss but in the cup,
And I'll not look for wine.
The thirst that from the soul doth rise
Doth ask a drink divine;
But might I of Jove's nectar sup,
I would not change from thine.
—Ben Jonson.

Drink ye to her that each loves best!
And if you nurse a flame
That's cold but for the mutual breast,
We will not ask her name.
—Thomas Campbell.

Laugh at all things,
Great and small things,
Sick or well, at sea or shore;
While we're quaffing,
Let's have laughing;
Who the devil cares for more?
—Byron.

'Ere's to the 'ealth o' your Royal 'Ighness; hand may the skin o' ha gooseberry be big henough for han humbrella to cover hup hall your henemies.
—Caddy's Toast in Ermurie.

I fill this cup to one made up
Of loveliness alone,
A woman, of her gentle sex
The seeming paragon.
Her health! and would on earth there stood
Some more of such a frame,
That life might be all poetry,
And weariness a name.
—Edward Coate Pickney.

Let us have wine and women, mirth and laughter,
Sermons and soda-water the day after.
—Lord Byron.

While we live, let's live in clover,
For when we're dead, we're dead all over.

Here's to woman, whose heart and whose soul
Are the light and the life of each spell we pursue,
Whether sunned at the tropics or chilled at the pole,
If women be there, there is happiness too.

Thus circling the cup, hand in hand, ere we drink,
Let sympathy pledge us, through pleasure, through pain,
That, fast as a feeling but touches one link,
Her magic shall send it direct through the chain.
—Thomas Moore.

A fig then for Bergundy, Claret or Mountain,
A few scanty glasses must limit your wish;
But he's the true toper that goes to the fountain,
The drinker that verily "drinks like a fish!"
—Thomas Hood.

THE MODERN BEAUTY

Thrives on good food and sunshine, with plenty of exercise in the open air. Her form glows with health and her face blooms with its beauty. If her system needs the cleansing action of a laxative remedy, she uses the gentle and pleasant Syrup of Figs, made by the California Fig Syrup Co. only.

NEW HEREDITARY ORDER.

The Society of the Army of Santiago de Cuba, in which all officers and enlisted men who took part in the campaign before Santiago are eligible for membership, was organized in the governor's palace at Santiago July 31, 1898. Its by-laws provide for three classes of members: First—Original members; second, members by inheritance; third, members

BADGE OF THE SOCIETY OF THE ARMY OF SANTIAGO DE CUBA.

by succession. The latter is to consist of blood relations of members of the first two classes, to whom the right of inheritance may come by will. The badge of the society is gorgeous. It glitters in gold, green, red and yellow. The ribbon shows the Spanish colors. The arms of the cross are green, with a gold center, and the eagle is also of gold.

VANE 355 YEARS OLD.

There has just been removed from the spire of St. Sidwell's church at Exeter, England, a vane with a history more than usually interesting. Its career began more than four centuries ago.

It was in 1484 that Bishop Courtenay, of Exeter heard that a great bell at Llandaff might be acquired, and having a passion in that direction he journeyed to the south Wales town, and managed to secure the monster in exchange for five smaller ones. He successfuly removed it to Exeter and had it hoisted to the top of the northern tower of the cathedral.

The tower, however, had not been designed to accommodate such a campanological giant, and room could only be found for it there by removing a portion of the roof. To protect his treasure the bishop erected over the tower a spire of oak covered with lead and he surmounted this by a vane, the conspicuous feature of which was a representation of a cock in copper.

Its extreme length was 2 feet 9 inches and height 2 feet 6 inches, while it was 8 inches thick in the center, being cast hollow. The chanticleer remained in this lofty position for 268 years, discharging the useful duties of telling the residents

THE OLD WEATHER VANE AT EXETER.

of the "ever faithful" city which way the wind blew. During that long spell of service it looked down on some strange and moving sights, for the period covered by its lofty exertion was rich in history-making incidents.

In 1762 the spire was taken down and the Peter bell was lowered into the tower far enough to allow the original level of roof to be reverted to. The spire was re-erected on the tower of St. Sidwell's parish church—a tower, by the way, which also has a history. It has on more than one occasion been utilized as a prison, especially during the rebellious times of the sixteenth century, and tradition has it that Sir Walter Raleigh's father was once incarcerated there.

For sixty years the old copper cock rested from its labors in the cathedral store, but in 1812 it was mounted on the St. Sidwell's spire and there it continued until a few days ago when it was removed preparatory to the demolition of the spire, which had been found to be in a dangerous condition. The ancient vane is in a remarkably fine state of preservation and those in authority intended to refix it on a rod to be placed on the top of the tower in the place of the rotten spire.

The old weather cock has braved the storms of 355 years, but it is believed there is another century of active service in it yet.

SOLD THE STOVE.

A west side youngster of 8 or 9, who had been saving old iron and had accumulated quite a pile, was made happy recently when his father sold it to a ragman for 12 cents, says the Chicago News. With the money the boy started for the candy shop. It was his first lesson in making money and he proved an apt student, for on the following day he wanted more candy and not having and more old iron to sell called a ragman into the house and sold the cook stove. The father is now searching for the ragman.

He Knew.

"Hov yez heard about ut?" queried Shannigan with well-simulated indignation. "The authorities wouldn't let 'em bury a poor owld woman yisterday."

"Wudn't let 'em bury her?" ejaculated McLubberty. "And for phwey not, O dun'no?"

"She wasn't dead! That's one on yez, Mack!"

"Niver meind! Niver meind! O'll work it aph on sawnbody else."

Meeting O'Hegarty a little later, he remarked, "Ut's savages that rule us, d'yez meind?"

"O'm not married mesilf," replied O'Hegarty, calmly.

"O don't mane thot. Hegorra, dhey wudn't let 'em bury a poor owld dead woman yisterday!"

"Phwoy not?"

"Because she wasn't dead. Haw! haw!"

"Wasn't dead? Dhe divil! Yez just said she was dead."

"Av O did, O got ahead av mesilf. Ut's a joke, d'yez see? O am a wag. D'yez know phwot a wag is?"

"Yis!"

"Phwot thin?"

"A wag is a dom fool!"—Harper's Bazar.

At the Musicale.

The glorified hand organ was painfully grinding out a composition by one of the old masters.

"Do you call that music?" asked the fair young listener. "I have a sewing machine at home I could give a better concerto with than that."

"What kind of a sewing machine?" inquired the matter-of-fact man sitting next to her.

"Well, it's a hummer!" she joined, and he listened to the music and didn't say anything more.—Chicago Tribune.

Luxury.

"Mike," said Plodding Pete, "there's only one time when I envies the rich."

"I'm ashamed of yer weakness."

"I don't blame you. But when I read about dese swells comin' all de way from Europe as saloon passengers I can't help feelin' a pang o' jealousy."—Washington Star.

Proof Positive.

Miss Sprockets—Are you sure you love me, Algernon? More than for my wealth and real estate possessions?

Mr. Wheeler—Of course I am. Why, I love you more than the ground you bike over.—Chicago News.

A Correct Answer.

Teddy (who has just begun to go to school)—Papa, do you know what six boys and five girls make?

"Yes," answered his father; "a racket."—Harper's Bazar.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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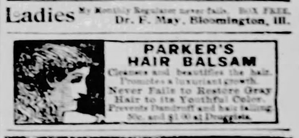

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 160,000

SPECIAL TERMS FOR WEEKLY BLADE.

On May 31, all special yearly offers in connection with the Weekly Blade will terminate. During June and July we shall take no yearly subscriptions, except at the full price of one dollar per year. However, during the months of June and July only we shall offer the lowest three months' price ever named by a weekly newspaper—so low, in fact, as will practically, give the paper free for three months to thousands of new readers. We ask our regular yearly subscribers to assist us in distributing these three-months' subscriptions, and to that end we offer both commission and premium to those who will send us clubs. Our special three-months' proposition will be sent to all applicants. We want one person in each town to send us one club, which can be obtained in a single hour. Bear in mind that during June and July we take yearly subscribers at one dollar, and three months' subscriptions at a merely nominal price. After July 31st, three months' subscriptions, thirty cents, as heretofore.

SMALLPOX INCREASING.

There has been a decided increase in the prevalence of smallpox in the United States within the past few months. According to the last report of the United States Marine Hospital service there have been in the country, since December last, 7,418 cases, of which 345 have proved fatal; and as reports from the South and West are rarely full and accurate, it is doubtful if this is more than half the real number of cases or more than a third of the number of deaths.

Smallpox is a winter disease. Its ravages are worst during the cold months. And its persistence until so late a date in the spring arouses the fear that it may smoulder through the summer and burst out in an epidemic when cold weather comes again. The government officials are apparently well aware of the danger and are using such power as they have to avert it. The main protection must lie with the people themselves in their several communities, but much good will be accomplished doubtless by the national order that has been issued for the vaccination of all officers and crews of merchant vessels arriving at Atlantic and Gulf ports.

This should be supplemented by the earnest efforts of all health boards, state and municipal, for general vaccination among the people. There has been too much agitation against vaccination by cranks, and the increase in the disease is probably due to this cause. The protection of the community is of such importance that the opinions of foolish individuals must not be allowed to stand in the way of proper prevention. And vaccination is the only preventive measure.

THE OREGON AT DAGUPAN.

The battleship Oregon is on her way to Dagupan, which is a seaport to the north of Manila, and the terminus of the railway from the capital. The most of the fighting has been on the southern end of this road, north of Manila. Aguinaldo is at Tarlac, which is half way between Dagupan and San Fernando, his last capital. The Oregon will shut off supplies of arms and provisions from the insurrectos, coming from Hong Kong or other ports.

While there is no doubt this is the first object of the Oregon's move, it is probable an expedition will be landed, and make its way south, thus putting Aguinaldo between two fires. The dictator will thus have his supplies cut off, and be compelled to surrender the forces he has left, or else seek refuge in the mountains, where there is not food enough to maintain a considerable force for any length of time.

The insurrection is on its last legs, despite the advent of the rainy season. While the wet weather will delay operations to some extent, it will not suspend them, as Aguinaldo fondly hoped. He is in the last ditch, with no possible hope of success. How long he will hold out is the only question.

The women of New Orleans have just furnished a logical argument for granting themselves the franchise—at least if they own property. The question submitted to popular vote was whether the city should expend $30,000,000 for a complete system of sewerage and city drainage. All women owning property in the city were allowed to vote, and over 3,000 of them did so. By their ballots the improvement was carried. The city, when the work is completed, will no longer be a harbor for yellow fever and other climatic diseases, nor will it be a menace to the health of the entire South every summer.

At last we have a definite bit of information from Andree. A buoy thrown from his balloon has been picked up on the coast of Iceland. But the message was written only eight hours after his start, and simply shows that the balloon had not gone very far northward, but had made considerable progress in an easterly direction. It simply adds to the probability that the explorer and his two companions were lost north of Siberia somewhere.

The Maumee Advance believes in expansion, and has adopted it locally, by expanding one column more to the page. The Blade is glad to note this evidence of prosperity in its hustling little contemporary.

HENDERSON'S POSITION.

Some of the Eastern Republican papers, not liking to see the speakership go west of the Mississippi, raised the cry that there is some doubt as to Gen. Henderson's hearty support of the administration in the new questions brought before the country by the Spanish war.

Gen. Henderson has made a frank and satisfactory reply to these scruples, through a newspaper interview. In reply to a question as to his views on the subject of expansion, he answered that "now is not the time to fix policies." And that is exactly the truth. The events to happen between now and the date whereon Congress assembles, may change the aspect of affairs. Mr. Henderson does not desire to map out a policy for Congress. It is a matter to be left to the judgment of the majority, not settled on the dictum of one man.

Continuing his discussion along this line, the next Speaker said:

See where we are and then see whether it is reasonable for us to attempt to anticipate the conditions which time brings. We are in a period of transition and readjustment, and congress will not meet until next December, unless, which is not likely, there should be a special session, and we should not attempt to forestall the future action which the light of developments may show to be advantageous and proper.

What we should all do at this time is to steadfastly support President McKinley. As the chief executive, he is in possession of hourly acquired information as to the ever changing conditions. This he will in time give over to us, I have no doubt, and in the meantime I believe the duty of all of us is to give him our firm, loyal support. This is all I care to say. In fact, I have said more than I intended saying.

This is eminently satisfactory to every Republican. It is quite different, in its outspoken loyalty to the administration, from what Speaker Reed would have said under similar circumstances. The Republicans of the nation need not fear veiled hostility to President McKinley from the next occupant of the Speaker's chair.

SENATOR BEVERIDGE.

The new Senator from Indiana, Albert J. Beveridge, will enter upon his duties when the Fifty-sixth Congress meets next December. He will be the youngest member of the upper branch of that body. But it is safe to say that he will make his mark from the start. His occupation during the present summer gives promise of that.

Instead of passing the season at home, he has gone to the Philippines, where he is busily studying conditions and preparing himself for the intelligent discussion of Oriental problems. He has just returned to Manila from a trip among the southern islands, which are likely to prove of increased interest at any time in the future. It will be much to have a senator fresh from Mindanao and Negros on hand in the capital to consult if a formidable insurrection breaks out there, or a system of insular government is proposed.

When he completes his tour of our new solony, he will make a trip to the seaports of China, to study trade conditions. As our commerce with that country is rapidly increasing, Mr. Beveridge wishes to know, by actual inspection, the existent trade status there, that he may be able to act intelligently in the coming Congressional session.

How much better it would be for the interests of the country if the men upon whom devolves the duty of legislating therefor should follow Senator Beveridge's example, and inform themselves at first-hand on the most important matters that will come before Congress! We trust that the young Indiana Senator will not feel himself bound to observe the absurd tradition of silence which old-time custom imposes upon a new Senator for his first year in the Senate. Senator Foraker broke away from this absurd observance, and Senator Beveridge should follow his example. He will know too much about matters in the Orient to keep silence when they come up for action by that body.

MICHIGAN'S SUGAR BOUNTY.

Governor Pingress has sent a message to the Michigan legislature asking a withdrawal of the beet sugar bounty bill. Two years ago a law was passed, granting a bounty of one cent a pound on all beet sugar made from beets grown in Michigan, for a period of seven years. Each term an appropriation bill covering the needed sum is passed by the legislature. It is this appropriation bill he desires withdrawn.

His chief reason is that, as the industry is growing rapidly, it will require over $900,000 for the next two years. He takes the narrow view that this bounty only benefits the farmers who grow beets, and says: "There is no more reason why the Michigan farmers outside of a small circle around these factories should bear this extra taxation, than should the farmers of Indiana or Massachusetts, for they will receive no benefit."

Pingree is a howler against trusts. The Sugar Trust is the second largest in the United States. The development of the beet sugar industry in this country to a point that will supply our needs without importing any sugar from abroad, will smash the Sugar Trust completely. The quickest way to foster the beet sugar industry is by the payment of state bounties for a limited term of years. If Pingree's anti-trust theories are correct, the disruption of the Sugar Trust will make sugar cheaper to every citizen of Michigan. Hence, if he wishes to be consistent, he should heartily support the bounty law. But Pingree's mind travels in an eccentric orbit, and consistency is not one of the jewels in his damogogic crown.

Only $6,000 of the $100,000 of the proposed fund for buying a house for Admiral Dewey has been subscribed. The scheme will probably fail, not for lack of appreciation for the admiral, but because the belief is widespread that he would not approve of the project. The fact, too, that the admiral has a salary of $15,000 a year and receives $10,000 a year from investments makes it evident that he is fully able to care for himself.

Next year occurs the presidential election. McKinley will be renominated and must be re-elected. Every Ohio Republican must do his duty this year. The triumphant election of Judge Nash will dishearten and discourage the Democrats all over the country.

Russia has, within the last few months, gathered an army of 40,000 men in Manchuria. The world has come to doubt the sincerity of the czar's peace professions.

The brewers in conference at Detroit demanded the removal of the war tax on beer in the interest of consumers. What self-sacrificing fellows they are, really!

LIES REFUTED.

The severest blow yet dealt to the falsifications spread broadcast by the anti-expansionists is the letter of Dean C. Worcester, a member of the Philippine commission. Professor Worcester has been in Manila for months. He has been an eye-witness of much of the fighting. He has visited every battlefield, and has kept in close touch with everything that occurred. He knows how the war has been carried on. And he declares that "the statements made by the New York Evening Post in an editorial published April 17, and similar statements, are in the main grossly exaggerated, and in some cases they are absolutely false."

The editorial in question charged that our soldiers in the Philippines were under orders to take no prisoners, and were looting the property of natives. Specifically replying to those charges, Professor Worcester says:

It is absolutely false that any order was ever issued looking to the killing of men who might be captured. The American soldiers have repeatedly taken prisoners under circumstances affording abundant excuse for killing, with the provocation very strong. I know positively that the city guards have been ordered to fire on soldiers caught looting if it was not practicable to make arrests.

He visited the battlefields, frequently before there had been time to remove the wounded or bury the dead. As to another of these anti-expansionist charges, he says:

I never saw a single woman or child wounded or dead. I have found on the contrary, wounded rebels whose injuries had been dressed by American surgeons before the firing had ceased, and who had also been provided with food and water. The insurgent wounded were brought to Manila and tended in our hospitals, or even taken care of in private hospitals, the government paying all the expenses. When cured the wounded can hardly be driven away.

But it is not the mere fabrication which he condemns. He shows that such publications have a serious effect on the situation in the Philippines. They prolong the war; they cost the lives of American soldiers. Read what he says on this point:

The accounts of alleged atrocities printed in American papers are copied by the insurgent press and cause incalculable harm. They cost good American lives. Nevertheless the situation is steadily improving. The war is being almost humanely conducted; the hungry are fed; the families of the insurgent leaders are granted protection in Manila, and even allowed to enter through the lines. About two hundred persons are coming daily into the city from the insurgent territory, and thousands are eager to come. Everyone here is working in the interest of justice, order and lasting peace, and all are anxious for the best good of the country and the people. To this end lawlessness must be put down with a firm hand and armed oppression must be made to cease.

Every fair-minded American will be glad to have a refutation of these scoundrelly libels upon the humanity of American soldiers and officers. The Evening Post, however, has not seen fit to notice Professor Worcester's article. It has not printed it, nor referred to it in any way. It does not suit the policy of the paper, which appears to be to embarrass the government in its efforts to bring peace and prosperity to the Philippines.

"WE KNOW OUR BUSINESS."

There is no more despicable method of garbling the utterances of a public man than taking one phrase of his making, divesting it of what led to its utterance, and thus concealing the meaning he intended. The latest conspicuous instance of this is the use the Democratic press of Ohio is making of one sentence in Senator Hanna's speech in the Ohio Republican convention—"we know our business."

There were five thousand persons present, and every one of them knows the interpretations put upon it by Democrats are purely imaginative. The facts are these: Senator Hanna was complimenting the convention on the fact that the Democratic papers were not running it. He called attention to the point that they had tried their best to raise feuds in the Republican party, but had failed. The convention showed this by its harmonious action. Said the senator, after reciting the above facts: "We know our business; we have been in politics as long as they have; our methods are different—they are nigher and purer."

The convention applauded to the echo. Every man understood the senator was referring to the meddling of Democratic newspapers, and the rebuke to this implied in the statement that the Republicans of Ohio know their business, and are capable of managing their own affairs without the interference of their political foes. The remark must have struck home, judging by the writhing of the Democratic press, and its ludicrous efforts to put into the phrase meanings which do not belong there.

CLEAR SAILING THIS YEAR.

For several months prior to the Republican state convention the Democratic newspapers of Ohio filled several hundred columns telling how the Republican party was divided, and how, when the convention would be held there would be a bolt or bolts, and that the party would have two or three candidates for governor, with the friends of each zealous in the work of cutting the throats of the other.

The reading public was told that it was simply impossible for the factions to get together, that at the convention knives would be used freely, and while Republicans were openly fighting each other the Democrats would make their nominations and elect their ticket.

The Republicans held their convention, and it was a love feast right. So far as Republicans are concerned, the situation is much better than it was a year ago. At that time the convention ignored the state administration, and there was an ugly feeling in many quarters. Through the tact of Chairman Daugherty, the divisions were healed and the party achieved a most remarkable victory, sweeping the state by 60,000 plurality.

To-day there is no bitterness. Every leader is in line for the whole ticket. The party is lined up. There are no quarrels. This year will see every prominent Republican in the state on the stump, while all former factions will unite for the success of the ticket.

Meanwhile, Democrats can now give some attention to their own disorganized, demoralized party, and Republican papers will cheerfully assist them in setting facts before the public.

The protection tariff is not a "Chinese wall" after all. Our exports to foreign countries aggregated $807,000,000 in 1895, $882,000,000 in 1896, $1,000,000,000 in 1897, $1,231,000,000 in 1898, and this year the figures will go still higher. Thus is the free trade theory smashed that "foreign nations will not buy of us unless we buy of them." The facts prove its fallacy.

Will that Pennsylvania minister who thinks negroes have no souls, please enlighten us as to the status of persons of mixed blood?

TO SELL CONTRIBUTIONS.

Here is a letter received by The Blade a few days ago, of a kind which is becoming increasingly frequent with us:

Will you be so kind as to tell me where I can dispose of short stories, poetry, etc., of my own composition, for a price? Who are the editors who buy such things? Do you?

The Blade does not solicit volunteer contributions. We do not want poetry, nor continued stories. As for short stories, or sketches, our room is so limited that we can rarely print them; so it is useless to send them to us.

There is not a day which does not bring us an average of a dozen poems. If they contain stamps, they are sent back; if not, they go into the waste basket. Save your postage, and don't send us any.

As for continued stories, we have made arrangements ahead for all we can publish for the next year. Don't send us anything of the kind.

The monthly magazines all purchase literary matter, if it suits the editor. Read carefully a half-dozen consecutive numbers of any magazine, so as to get a good idea of the kind of matter the editor wants. Then, if you can write that class of matter, and as good or better than that printed in the magazine, send its editor an article.

One word of information: There is written, all the time, of good literary matter, about ten times as much as there is a market for. Thousands and tens of thousands of good articles never get into type because there is such a surplus of production. Note that we say of "good literary matter." We do not mean the tons of trash that ambitious but incompetent would-be authors write.

We are glad to receive at all times, contributions for the Household and other departments of The Blade, but we do not pay for them.

MR. STORER AND GHOULI KHAN.

Bellamy Storer turned up all right, after his mysterious disappearance, but the cause of the latter is not yet known. It was intended that he should present his credentials to the Queen Regent at Madrid, at the same time the new Spanish minister went through the same formality at Washington. The quid-nunes at Washington recall the case of the disappearance of the Persian minister to the United States, several years ago, while en route to the United States. In fact, the gossips of the capital are wondering whether the same cause was at the bottom of Mr. Storer's temporary eclipse.

The Persian case was this: Ghouli Khan was appointed minister, and the Teheran government notified Washington that he had started. His baggage arrived all right, but Ghouli did not appear. Weeks and months slipped by, and neither the Persian nor the United States government could locate him. The comic papers took it up, and wrote verses about him. Here is a sample couplet:

"Hadji Hassan Ghouli Khan Matamed el Vessare,
He was a funny little man, and had a name so airy."

After three months of fun, speculation and diplomatic trouble, Ghouli Kahn calmly entered Washington from Paris, explaining that he had been having a good time, incognito, in the French capital for six months. That started the comic papers and the funny paragraphers again, and they made life such a burden to the absurd little minister that he returned in a huff to Persia.

And now the newspaper boys and the whole congregation of Bohemians are waiting for Bellamy Storer's explanation of his disappearance, with a lurking hope that it may be a replica of that of Ghouli Khan.

TAXATION OF FRANCHISES.

The new Ford law for the taxation of franchises in the state of New York is attracting wide attention. As originally passed, it did not cover the ground fully and Governor Roosevelt, who was deeply interested in the measure, recalled the legislature in special session to amend the bill, which was done. The tax commissioners of the state are now busy in applying it to corporations holding franchises in the Empire state.

The important feature in it is, that it prescribes a simple and accurate method of ascertaining the value of any franchise. The tangible property of a corporation is already taxed under the regular tax laws. This new measure provides that the market value of the stocks and bonds of the corporation shall be taken as the total value of its property, tangible and intangible. From this shall be substracted the valuation of the tangible property. The remainder is the value of the franchises held by the company.

This provision is bitterly assailed, but it is difficult to find fault with it. To find an equitable basis for determining the real value of franchises, that they may bear their just share of taxation, has long been a desideratum. This law furnishes a just method. The market price of the securities of a company owning a franchise is a matter of public knowledge. The difference between this and the value of the tangible property shows most certainly the worth of the franchise, and is a fair basis for taxation.

The method proposed by the Ford law is vastly better than the "municipal ownership" idea, or any other socialistic theory. Under public ownership neither the tangible property nor the value of the franchise is taxed. Private taxpayers have higher taxes as a consequence. It is better to broaden the tax valuation than to narrow it. If all the franchises in the country paid their equitable share of the burden, the load of the individual citizen would be lightened, and that is the line of development. Municipal ownership would have the opposite effect. Quasi-public franchises are a development of our complex modern civilization, and it has hitherto been a problem how to have them bear their fair share of taxation. The Ford law is the first successful solution of the problem.

The trans-Mississippi congress, in session last week at Wichita, Kansas, passed a very strong expansion resolution. They could do nothing else, for if it had not been for the expansion policy the area west of the Mississippi would not now be part of the American Union.

The scheme of a giant steel trust, capitalized at a billion, has fallen through. And it is a good thing that it did. It would have proved a gigantic failure, and that would have deranged the business of the country.

Admiral Dewey has the good sense to refuse to be feted. The girls will probably find it difficult to Hobsonize him.

Gen. Otis proposes to fight it out on this line if it takes all summer.

TO CLUB RAISERS.

There are hundreds of our readers who annually obtain for us clubs of three months' subscribers. We invite all who will take an interest in the matter to write us for our special three months' terms. This year we limit the time to June and July only, but the price and agents' terms are the best we have ever offered.

Aguinaldo has dissolved his Congress, and is going it alone as dictator. It will not be long until he relinquishes the title for that of prisoner of war.

COMMENT OF THE WEEK.

The Alaska Arrangement.

A temporary arrangement—a "modus vivendi"—is probable between the United States and Great Britain on the Alaskan boundary question. It will serve three good purposes. It will put an end to present friction. It will remove the boundary question from the consideration of the joint high commission and leave that body no excuse for not reassembling and negotiating a treaty covering most of the other points in dispute. Finally, it will give time for and facilitate the permanent demarcation of the boundary in a just and satisfactory manner. To do these things will be a worthy work of diplomacy. Beyond them it may do little good. There is, indeed, little if any more to be done. It does not appear that there is any danger of its doing harm to either party. The concessions made by this government are, it is understood, of a temporary nature. They do not in any wise commit the United States to the policy of making them permanently in the final settlement. Certainly the Dominion can have no ground for complaint. The modus vivendi gives it more than it has ever had before.

The arrangement does not apply to the whole Alaska boundary, nor even to all the disputed part of it, but merely to that portion of it lying about Lynn Canal. That is the region through which the Klondike traffic comes and goes, and it is consequently the region of greatest present interest. Lynn Canal is a great arm of the sea, most of it from eight to twelve miles wide, penetrating the continent nearly a hundred miles. Juneau and Douglass Island are near its southern end. Dyea, Skagway, Chilkat, Chilkoot, Pyramid Harbor and Kukwan are on the arms into which its northern end is divided. It is the great highway to the Dalton Trail, the White Pass and other roads to the Klondike. The Canadians claim that it is an inland water and that it and all its shores, including Juneau and Douglass Island, belong to them. The United States insists that it is an arm of the sea, and that its shores are a part of the "winding of the coast" from which, under the Anglo-Russian treaty of 1825, the boundary is to be measured; and that all land lying within ten marine leagues of its shores consequently belongs under the Stars and Stripes. It may be added that, as a matter of fact, all such land was from 1825 to 1867 undisputedly Russian, and from 1867 to 1884 or later undisputedly the property of the United States.

The modus vivendi fixes the tenative boundary as follows: Above the eastern arm of Lynn canal it will pass through the Canadian custom houses already established respectively in White pass and in Chilkoot pass. That is less than ten marine leagues from the coast, or from tide water. It is, indeed, only some ten miles therefrom. But the Canadians contend, and not, we must confess, without some show of reason, that the Kotusk mountain range, across which these passes lead, is a range of "mountain summits parallel with the coast" such as the treaty prescribes as the boundary line wherever such range exists not more than ten marine leagues from the coast. It is not impossible that judicious surveys will fix that range as the boundary at that point. If so, this provisional settlement will merely anticipate the permanent one. At any rate, it merely prolongs and legitimizes the status quo.

Above the western branch of the canal the boundary is fixed at a point on the Dalton trail just north of the Indian village of Klukwan. That is 24 miles above that Pyramid harbor which the Canadians have been demanding and thirty miles above the forking of the Lynn canal. It is, that is to say, thirty miles from the part of the canal which is more than six miles wide, and which is therefore to be regarded as tide water from the shore of which the boundary is to be measured. The boundary will probably have in the end to be thus measured there, since no mountain range exists as on the other side. The point fixed in the present arrangement is somewhat nearer the coast than we are probably entitled to have it placed. But five or ten miles for a space of two years do not matter greatly in that region. The important point is that the village of Klukwan is left on our side of the line. Beyond that there is not another village for a hundred miles.

We repeat that this tentative arrangement does not commit either party to it as a finality. But as a temporary expedient it seems excellent, and it may well be that it will serve for adoption as the permanent settlement. At any rate, it is earnestly to be hoped that no finicky objection will balk the trial of it. We feel confident that none will come from this side; and, as the chief concessions have been made on this side and the chief gains on the other, it is scarcely conceivable that Canada will oppose an arrangement in which she has nothing to lose and much to gain.

The Transvaal Trouble.

It is evidently the general feeling in Great Britain that the resources of diplomacy have been exhausted in the Transvaal, and that if the Boer government does not yield, resort to physical force will be unavoidable.

It must be admitted that Great Britain has some good reasons for refusing to consent to arbitration with the Boers of the Transvaal. That is essentially the method of settling differences between independent countries. It admits equality of position and international standing. To consent to arbitration with the Transvaal Republic would be British recognition of the right of that country to full membership in the family of nations. Yet the conventions which gave the Transvaal the measure of independence now enjoyed expressly stipulated that no treaty made by the South African Republic should be valid without the approval, express or implied, of the United Kingdom. All compacts between the South African Republic and other nations were to be subject to revision by Great Britain and even to veto. If not disapproved within six months, they were to be binding.

Of course such relations preclude the idea of independence. A country which has to submit to the revision of its treaties by another nation, with the right of veto admitted, is not qualified for full membership in international councils. It is a dependent state. Having that limitation of the powers and standing of the Transvaal Republic in mind, England cannot be expected to consent to arbitration, with its implied recognition of the full equality of the South African Republic with the British Empire. Yet the Boers may justly claim that the only reason they ever agreed to the British veto power, in their dealings with foreign nations, was their desire to avoid war with a great empire. It was never a willing concession, and it was never founded on natural justice.

Such features of the situation in the Transvaal Republic make the deadlock with Great Britain peculiarly dangerous and difficult. The negotiations which take place and are necessitated by the vast business interests of British subjects in the Transvaal and the large British element in the population, are dealings between a great empire and a little state once wholly subject to it. They involve the position of a country near enough absolute independence to chafe greatly under any restraint upon its international freedom and alliances. Worst of all, there is a great chasm of race and social distinctions to be bridged.

It is not strange that under such conditions the market for "Kaffirs," as the South African mining stocks are called in London, broke badly last week.

Picquart's Release.

Justice has won another victory in France. Colonel Picquart, the bravest and noblest of the revisionists, has been "provisionally" set at liberty. The decision in the Dreyfus case rendered this release inevitable. The charges against Picquart were of the flimsiest and most puerile character, and the judicial inquiry has shown that Henry, De Clam and the other conspirators of the intelligence bureau and the staff had deliberately manufactured and forged evidence upon which to secure the conviction and disgrace of their fearless and thrice-armed opponent.

It was Picquart who discovered Esterhazy's treason and Dreyfus' innocence from a telegram to the wretched count from the German embassy—the telegram being the famous petit bleu, "telegram card." Bound to shield the real culprit and obstruct revision, the conspirators caused the arrest of Picquart on the lying charge of having revealed state secrets to Leblois, his friend and counsel. When the case was called for trial the public prosecutor moved an indefinite postponement, on the ground that the solution of the Dreyfus puzzle was necessary to a determination of the issues in the Picquart case. But the vindictive Zurlinden, military governor of Paris, immediately interfered and transferred the gallant colonel to a military prison on an infamous charge of forgery. The conspirators had trumped up the accusation that Picquart had forged the petit bleu to ruin Esterhazy.

When thus arrested in the Correctional Court, Picquart made his sensational and dramatic statement to the public—that if he should be found dead in the military prison, no one should accept the theory of suicide, but the whole world should know that the scoundrels had murdered him. Doubtless that warning saved Picquart's life. The wretches did not dare to execute their fiendish design. Picquart endured his hardships stoically, gave his important testimony to the Court of Cassation and contributed more than any other witness to the splendid result. The machinations laid bare, the alleged case against him falls to the ground.

It is safe to say that his enemies will not press their ridiculous charge of forgery. But Picquart himself will doubtless insist upon a trial, especially if he desires to regain his rank and title in the army which he honored and adorned by his justice, uprightness and courage.

The Fifty-Sixth Congress.

In spite of the fact that it is as yet only early summer, circumstances have caused a good deal of attention to be attracted to the outlook for legislation in the Fifty-sixth Congress. The retirement of Mr. Reed from the speakership has brought about a contest for the succession which has done something to arouse interest in what is ordinarily a dull vacation period. That contest appears now to have been practically settled in favor of Mr. Henderson, of Iowa, so far, indeed, that an effort on the part of any other candidate seems now hopeless. Coupled with the interest in the speakership contest is that felt in the probabilities regarding currency legislation. As to that opinions vary considerably. It is of interest, however, to note that so well-informed a legislator as Senator Allison, who, by the way, comes from the same state as the new speaker, holds to the opinion that no radical measures are to be anticipated. He does, however, look to see the enactment into law of the recommendations of the President relative to the issue of national bank currency to the par value of the bonds deposited with the Treasurer of the United States, a decrease in the tax on national bank circulation and the payment of gold of the Treasury. Senator Allison's long identification with financial legislation gives a special interest to his views as to probabilities in this direction, though the conditions of the time may make the way of the prophet a difficult one.

Business Situation.

Stock values reached a considerably higher level last week than was the case previously, and this tendency to advance indicates clearly the feeling in regard to general conditions. Traders are again arraying themselves on the bull side of the market, and the volume of commission house business has lately shown a steady gain from day to day. With money evincing a tendency to still greater ease, present prices for many of the dividend payers are beginning to attract the attention of this class of stocks. No important bull movement is looked for in the immediate future, as the hot weather period is rapidly approaching, but in the opinion of people whose judgment is usually good prices will gradually work to a higher level through a somewhat irregular market during the next few weeks.

Grain Prices.

Wheat is lower—not because of any improvement in the prospect for the coming crop in either this country or Europe, for any change that has been reported here or there has been rather for the worse. The real cause of the changed tone in speculative sentiment came from the revelation made by what may be called immense receipts of the old crop of spring wheat. This indicated that large as last year's crop was supposed to have been the estimates were by no means large enough. An addition of 2,000,000 bushels in one week to the visible supply at this season of the year, as was shown to have taken place, is almost unprecedented.

It was generally supposed that old crop influences had permanently retired in favor of the new until the immense resources of the great northwestern spring wheat territory commenced to give that fresh example of their magnitude. The acreage or yield—probably both of spring wheat in Minnesota and the Dakotas—requires to be liberally revised by government and private crop experts as well as to prevent annually recurring miscalculations as to the extent of the crops they raise. The growing importance of the spring wheat crop now that attention has been called to it afresh by the current heavy receipts, will doubtless create additional interest in the progress of the growing crop, which so far is promising splendidly.

Corn worked down a trifle in price last week, and but for the heavy rains in some sections which hindered its cultivation a greater decline would probably have had to be recorded. The area planted is freely admitted to be considerably larger than last year's and greater even than that of any previous year; a normal season should therefore be productive of an immense aggregate yield. The crop is only in its infancy, however, hence it is too early to build anything beyond hope upon its future.

The ALASKA DISPUTE

Canada lays full claim to Dyea and Skaguay, Alaskan points which have come into great prominence since the gold discoveries of the Klondike, and which have hitherto been in the undisputed possession of the United States. It is proposed that the boundary question be submitted to arbitration. What there is for possible arbitration may be gather by reference to this summary of the provisions of the treaty between Great Britain and Russia, as adopted in 1825 for the eastern boundary of Alaska:

Beginning at the southernmost point of Prince of Wales island in latitude 54 degrees 40 minutes north, and running thence along Portland channel to the point of mainland, where it strikes latitude 56 degrees north, and from this point

along the summits of the mountain range parallel to the coast, except where the distance of such summits from the ocean exceeds 10 marine leagues, to its intersection with the one hundred and forty-first meridian. Wherever the peaks are situated farther inland than the distance specified, the line is drawn parallel to the winding of the coast, at that distance from it. The territory also includes all the islands near the coast.

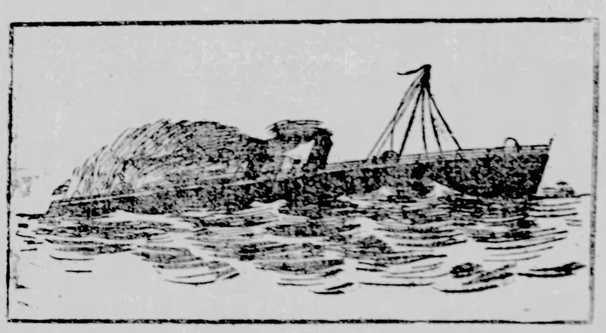
The United States, of course, claims title through Russia. Whatever Russia could have held had she continued to own Alaska through right of discovery, that we can rightly hold. But there has been a dispute for years regarding the meaning of several terms of the treaty, and particularly as to the significance of the words, "winding of the coast." Is the coast the outer ocean line of the mainland, or does it run up rivers, inlets and bays, thus setting back the boundary line between the two countries in a westerly direction several leagues? A glance at the accompanying map will show the importance to both countries of an interpretation of these indefinite words.

The solid line in the above shows the present boundary line between the two countries, while the dotted line is approximately Canada's claim. The significance of the contention is that the one gives us all the harbors that are the natural outlets and inlets from and to the Klondike, while the other would give several to Canada, where she now has none. Or, as the Toronto Mail puts it:

According to the United States contention, the boundary follows all the indentations instead of crossing them, while the Canadian or British view is that it crosses these river mouths at the stipulated points 10 leagues from the coast. The importance of the issue is illustrated in the case of the Lynn canal, at the head of which Dyea and Skagway are situated. Here is a narrow inlet, some six miles broad 25 miles from its mouth, but will be at its entrance. If the relatively narrow channel is to be treated as sea coast, and if the boundary is to be calculated from this assumed coast, the territory following the entire length of the channel, and for 34 miles back, is American. On the other hand, if the coast proper be followed, the head of the indentation is Canadian, just as the head of the Stickeen river is Canadian. The question as to which is the proper basis for calculation is a fair subject for independent arbitration.

Of course, Canada is more than willing to arbitrate, or even to draw straws and pitch pennies over this question; for she has nothing to lose and everything to gain. The United States, on the other hand, is in possession of the disputed territory, and has been for years, and it is regarded as being as much America as San Francisco or Portland, Oregon. We have not refused to arbitrate, however, but it should be unnecessary. If the matter is taken up in the proper spirit by experts of the two countries, diplomacy can probably settle all differences. At any rate, the dispute must not be allowed to disturb that Anglo-American alliances of which our German-American friends see so many evidences, but which is the approach of a question of this kind shows signs of reaching the breaking point whenever the strain becomes at all severe; that is, if we seriously take the pronunciamento of our Canadian friends.

THE NEW TORPEDO BOAT DAHLGREN.



The United States torpedo boat destroyer Dahlgren was floated off the ways at the Bath Iron works on May 29. As soon as she was fairly afloat Mrs. John Vinton Dahlgren, wife of the late Admiral Dahlgren's youngest son, broke a bottle of champagne over the decorated bow and pronounced the Christening words.

The construction of the United States torpedo boat Dahlgren was authorized by congress in the act passed June 10, 1896, and the contract was signed with the Bath Iron works October 6, of the same year. The contract price for the hull and machinery, exclusive of ordnance and outfit, is $194,000.

The boat is 152 feet long, 16 feet 4½ inches extreme breadth, and has a mean draft of 4 feet 7½ inches and a displacement of 150 tons. She is of the "Normand" type, and is similar in general design to a very successful class of boats now in service in the French navy. She has two Normand water tube boilers and twin screw, vertical, triple expansion engines of 4,200 horsepower, and her contractors guarantee a mean speed on her trial of 30½ knots per hour.

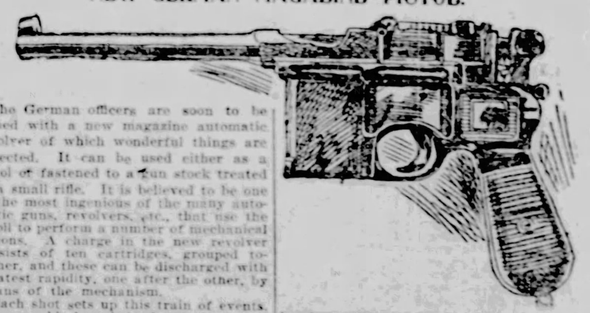
Her bunker capacity is 50 tons of coal. She is fitted with two discharging tubes for 18-inch Whitehead automobile torpedoes and carries a battery of four one-pounder rapid-fire guns. Her extreme draft to the bottom of her propellers is eight feet eight inches. She is fitted with two conning towers and just abaft the forward one on each side a one-pounder gun is mounted; the other two being similarly mounted just abaft the after tower. One of the torpedo tubes is located on the centre line of the boat over the after bulkhead of engine room and the other is at the after end of the boat.

The officers' quarters are aft. The speed trial will be held at an early date, after which she will be sent to the navy yard at Portsmouth, N. H., to be placed in commission.

WHERE FOUR EUROPEAN COUNTRIES CORNER.

To be on the frontier lines of four countries would be a novel experience to most men. But it is the common and daily lot of the police and customs officers shown in the accompanying picture. A step in one direction and they are in Germany; another step takes them to the Netherlands; another to Belgium, and another to the neutral territory, independent since 1814, a self-governing country of about five square miles in extent, with no army and no import duties. The German policeman on horseback is flanked by the Dutchman, the Belgian constable and a German customs officer standing in that order, and the representative of the neutral territory has his throne on a rock which is the highest part of the Netherlands.

NEW GERMAN MAGAZINE PISTOL.



The German officers are soon to be armed with a new magazine automatic revolver of which wonderful things are expected. It can be used either as a pistol or fastened to a gun stock treated as a small rifle. It is believed to be one of the most ingenious of the many automatic guns, revolvers, etc., that use the recoil to perform a number of mechanical actions. A charge in the new revolver consists of ten cartridges, grouped together, and these can be discharged with greatest rapidity, one after the other, by means of the mechanism.

Each shot sets up this train of events. The movable breech is thrown back and the extractor rejects the empty shell, the carrier brings a fresh cartridge into position, the hammer is thrown up ready for the next shot and a spring pushes the cartridge into the chamber and with a slight pressure this is fired and the revolver goes on working automatically until the ten shots are fired. The magazine is easily filled, it taking no more time to place the ten cartridges in their case than it takes to insert a single cartridge into the chamber of an ordinary revolver.

The case of the revolver is made in such a way that it can be fastened to the handle of a gun stock and turn it into a rifle. The bullet of hardened lead weighs five and one-half grammes. The base has a jacket of lead with nickel. The calibre is 7 mm. 63. The muzzle velocity is about 1,400 feet a second. In trial the bullet has gone through a ten-inch pine target thirty-three feet away; at 500 feet it penetrates four inches of pine; tried on cadavers at 10,000 feet, it has gone through the body, breaking the humerus, and penetrated three inches into a second body. The sight is graduated to 2,000 feet, but the weapon will throw a bullet 4,000 feet.

Publishers' Column.

SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR PICTURES

To meet the demand of our subscribers for pictures of some of the leading battles of the Spanish-American war, we have secured the following list:

Rear Admiral Dewey's Great Naval Battle off Cavite in Manila Bay.

Battle of Las Guasimas, near Santiago, June 24, 1898.

Capture of El Caney, El Paso and fortifications of Santiago, July 1 and 2, 1898.

Group Picture—Our Great American Naval Heroes.

Battle of Manila, July 31, 1898.

These pictures are on good paper, size 22x28 inches, and printed in colors. Our price, postpaid by mail, is 50c each, or 3 for $1.25. The group picture of naval heroes is especially fine and should be in every home.

Address: The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

THE CIVIL WAR.

Every G. A. R. reader of The Blade will find the following a valuable picture to add to their collection of mementoes of the great civil war. It should have a place in every G. A. R. hall in the country:

Equestrian Group of Prominent Union and Confederate Generals and Statesmen, as they appeared during the late civil war, 1861-1865.

The above picture contains, on one sheet, 28x42, the correct portraits of 20 Union and 20 Confederate Generals on horseback in military uniform; also the bust portraits of 8 Union and 6 Confederate Statesmen of note.

Price, 75 cents.

Address: The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

THE WHITE HOUSE COOK BOOK.

Probably the best cook book ever published in this country bears the above title. It is the most popular, has had the largest sale, and is the most practical one for general family use. The price—thousands have sold for two and three dollars each—has placed it beyond the reach of the majority of housekeepers. An edition has been issued in cheap form, with paper covers, containing the same information as the original. It is printed with large type, on good paper, and answers every purpose for use of the ordinary housewife. We have secured a few hundred copies, which we offer to Blade subscribers, postpaid by mail for 45 cents, or we will send a copy free to any person remitting us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year, and asking for a copy of the book as a premium.

WATCHES BY MAIL.

The Blade offers its readers this season a new list of watches at less than ordinary retail prices, sent postpaid by mail on receipt of prices marked below. The list embraces two or three cheap but good watches, and three or four better grade of time keepers.

SPECIAL OFFER NO. 91.

Waltham or Elgin, $4.50.

Either nickel or gilt movement, as the subscriber may prefer. We offer these watches at the lowest prices ever known in the history of watch making. Made by the well known American Watch company, Waltham, Mass., and the great Elgin Watch Co.

The works contain all the latest improvements, 7 jewels, compensation balance, safety pinion and is stem winding and setting. Has a porcelain dial with Roman or Arabic figures, as desired it is open face, with a heavy beveled glass crystal. The case is a high grade of composition, known as nickel silver, which for closely resembles solid silver that on expert might be deceived. It is indestructible, does not tarnish so easily as solid silver from exposure to the air, and it is finished in the same manner as the solid silver goods. The patterns are not thicker than solid silver.

Prices.

They are sent by registered mail, postpaid, at the following prices:

1 dozen teaspoons	$1.25
½ dozen teaspoons	.85
1 dozen tablespoons or forks	2.35
½ dozen tablespoons or forks	1.25
1 dozen dessert spoons or forks	2.00
½ dozen dessert spoons or forks	1.15
½ dozen table knives	2.25
1 dozen table knives	4.25

These are made in only the one pattern. They are sent by express. There can be no variation from these offers. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

Address with remittance in current funds,

THE BLADE, Toledo, O.

THE CHILD'S HEART.

The heart of a child,
Like the heart of a flower,
Has a smile for the sun
And a tear for the shower;
Oh, innocent hours
With wonder beguiled—
Oh, heart like a flower's
In the heart of a child.

The heart of a child,
Like the heart of a bird,
With raptures of music
Is flooded and stirred;
Oh, songs without words,
Oh, melodies wild—
Oh, heart like a bird's
In the heart of a child.

The heart of a child,
Like the heart of the spring,
Is full of hope
Of what summer shall bring;
Oh, glory of things
In a world undefiled—
Oh, heart like the spring's
In the heart of a child.

—London Speaker.

LEADING ACTORS AND SCENES IN THE DREYFUS DRAMA.

The picture of former Captain Alfred Dreyfus is from a portrait taken after his degradation, and its publication prohibited by the French authorities. General Mercier, on the right was Minister for War at the time of Dreyfus' arrest, and he was accused by Emil Zola of being a tacit accomplice in a conspiracy against Dreyfus. Major Esterhazy, on the left, now a fugitive from justice, has confessed he wrote the bordereau, on which Dreyfus was convicted.

DREYFUS' TRAGIC STORY

ARRESTED IN 1894 ON A CHARGE OF SELLING STATE SECRETS.

Story of the Most Remarkable Case In the Annals of Political and Military Intrigue.

The Dreyfus case, which has convulsed France for the last three years, began on October 15, 1894, when Capt. Dreyfus, an officer of the Fourteenth regiment of artillery, and attached to the general staff of the army, was arrested on the charge of high treason.

In September, 1894, a bordereau, or memorandum of "notes" on certain military subjects, was addressed by some French officer to Col. Schwartzkoppen, the military attache at the German embassy. What "notes" referred to had been safely received, but the bordereau was intercepted by the French war office. This bordereau ran as follows:

Sir, though I have no news indicating that you desire to see me, nevertheless I am sending to you some interesting bits of information.

1. A note on the hydraulic break of the 120, and on the way in which the piece behaved.

2. A note on the covering troops (some modifications will be entailed by the new plan).

3. A note on a modification in artillery formations.

4. A note relative to Madagascar.

5. The project of the firing manual for field artillery, March 14, 1894.

The last document is extremely difficult to procure, and I can only have it at my disposal during a very few days. The Minister of War has sent a limited number of copies to the several corps, and these corps are responsible for its return, each officer in possession of one to return it after the maneuvres. If then you would like to take out of it whatever interests you and hold it afterward at my disposal, I will take it. Unless, indeed, you would like me to have it copied in extenso and then address to you the copy.

I am just off to the maneuvres.

At that time Casimir-Perier was president of the republic. Dupuy was, as now, prime minister; Gen. Mercier was minister of war, and Gen. de Boisdeffre head of the general staff. Col. Sandherr, now dead, was head of the intelligence department, which conducted all matters relating to spies, French or foreign. Major Henry, the self-confessed forger of "evidence" against Dreyfus, committed suicide in 1898.

An inquiry was opened to discover the author of the intercepted bordereau, and Commandant du Paty de Clam, who was supposed to be skillful in the matter of handwriting, discovered in it a resemblance to the handwriting of Capt. Alfred Dreyfus, a Hebrew, and a son of a wealthy manufacturer at Mulhausen, Alsace. Together with his three brothers, Capt. Dreyfus had elected after the war of 1870 to remain a French subject. He went to Paris in 1874, and was successively a pupil at the Chaptal college and at Saint-Barbe. He was then admitted, in 1878, into the Ecole Polytechnique. He then went to the School of Applied Gunnery, and was later appointed second lieutenant in the Thirty-first regiment of artillery in garrison at Mons. On September 17, 1887, he was made captain of the Twenty-first regiment of artillery. On April 21, 1890, he was admitted at the Ecole de Guerre, and left it in 1892 with the mention, "Very good." During 1893 and 1894 he was attached to the general staff of the army. He is a married man and the father of two children.

Notwithstanding the fact that M. Gobert, expert of the Bank of France, declared that, in his judgment, the document might have been written by some person other than Capt. Dreyfus, the officer was arrested by Gen. Mercier's orders on October 14, 1894, and taken to the Cherche Midi prison. Dreyfus incessantly protested that he was innocent, and nothing of a compromising character was found at his house. The prisoner, however, was kept au secret, and not even allowed to receive news of his family. It has been said that at this time Gen. Mercier, seeing that no direct evidence against Dreyfus was to be procured, was disposed to discontinue the prosecution. But now began that anti-Semitic campaign in the press, which has been one of the most remarkable features of this extraordinary case. Hearing the minister was wavering, this anti-Semitic press began to attack Gen. Mercier "for wishing to stifle the matter because the officer was a Jew." Almost immediately afterward Gen. Mercier ordered a fresh inquiry opened, and these attacks ceased.

The Court Martial.

The court martial, presided over by Col. Maurel, began on December 19, 1894. The trial, which took place behind closed doors, lasted two days. At its conclusion Dreyfus was found guilty by the unanimous vote of the court martial and was sentenced to imprisonment for life and to suffer degradation from his military rank.

The scene of the public degradation, which took place at the Ecole Militaire, Paris, on January 5, 1895, was very dramatic. It was witnessed by three thousand troops, and was as complete as is known to the practice of military law. The insignia of rank, the badges of his profession, were torn from his coat and cap; even the stripes were torn from his trousers by the adjutant, and his sword broken in two.

While this was being done Dreyfus raised his arms and cried:

"I am innocent, I swear I am innocent! Vive la France!"

The French government, under M. Dupuy, then premier, proposed and the chamber adopted the law of February 9, 1895, by virtue of which Dreyfus was deported to Devil's Island, just off French Guiana. Otherwise he would have gone to New Caledonia, in the Pacific.

Thus closed the first part of the drama, and nothing more was heard of Dreyfus until late in the summer of 1896. Colonel Sandherr had been succeeded as head of the information department by Lieutenant Colonel Picquart, and soon after Picquart began his new duties he became convinced that a grave judicial error had been made. He related himself how this conviction was forced on him at the Zola trial, on February 11, 1898. He said:

"At the beginning of the month of May, 1896, the fragments of a telegram card fell into my hands. These fragments I gummed together. I found the card was addressed to Commandant Esterhazy. I no longer remember the exact terms of this card, but everything in it seemed to indicate that between the person who had written it and Commandant Esterhazy there existed suspicious relations. Before submitting the card to my superiors I was obliged to get some information about Commandant Esterhazy, which was not favorable.

"I interested myself to obtain the handwriting of Commandant Esterhazy, and I was struck by its resemblance to that of the famous bordereaux. I asked an expert for his opinion. He answered, 'It is the writing of the bordereau.'"

Colonel Picquart revealed his discovery to his superiors, Generals Boisdeffre and Gonse, but his zeal was not appreciated, and on November 16, 1896, he was sent on a dangerous "mission" to Tunis, and Colonel Henry, the forger, succeeded him in the intelligence bureau.

First Move for Revision.

About this same time a newspaper—which became later a rabid anti-revisionist organ—announced that the condemnation of Dreyfus had not been obtained on the strength of the bordereau alone, but by the exhibition to the court martial of secret evidence, withheld from the accused and his counsel. This was the first word of the secret dossier.

Dreyfus' friends eagerly seized at this opportunity to demand revision of the case. The introduction of the secret evidence was declared illegal, constituting a "new fact and necessitating revision of the sentence by a higher court."

In the summer of 1897, Senator Scheurer-Kestner, having learned about Picquart's discovery concerning the authorship of the bordereau, began an active campaign in Dreyfus' favor, and on November 5, of the same year, Mathieu Dreyfus, brother of the prisoner, denounced Esterhazy to General Billot, the new minister of war as the real culprit.

In reply Comte Esterhazy requested an inquiry, and on December 31 Commandant Ravary reported in favor of not prosecuting Esterhazy. In view, however, or the public clamor, Esterhazy was tried by court martial and acquitted on January 11, 1898.

The following day Colonel Picquart, who had been recalled from Algeria in November to attend the Esterhazy court martial, was arrested, these charges being preferred against him: First, that Picquart had himself forged the telegram card in order to ruin Esterhazy, second, that he had before he left the general staff communicated Dreyfus' secret dossier to his counsel; third, that he had abstracted certain documents from the secret dossier.

But the acquittal of Esterhazy and the prosecution of Picquart did not stop the public clamor, and on June 13 broke out again with increased violence by the publication of Emile Zola's famous letter of accusation against the chiefs of the army. He charged that General de Boisdeffre, General Gonse, and even the minister of war himself believed Esterhazy wrote the famous bordereau, but said the staff, knowing that Esterhazy's condemnation would lead to a revision of the Dreyfus court martial, refused to reopen the case. He concluded as follows:

Zola's Famous Accusation.

I accuse Lieutenant Colonel du Paty de Clam of having been the diabolical worker of a judicial error, unconsciously I am ready to believe, and of then having defended his work during the last three years by the most absurd and culpable machinations. I accuse General Mercier of being the accomplice, at least, through weak intelligence, in the greatest iniquity of the century. I accuse General Billot of having in his hands the certain proofs of the innocence of Dreyfus, and of having suppressed them, thus sinning against humanity and justice, for a political reason and in order to save the compromised staff. I accuse General de Boisdeffre and General Gonse of being leaders of the same clerical crime, the one through religious animosity, doubtless, the other, perhaps, through the "esprit de corps," which makes the war office that sacred and unassailable ark. I accuse General de Pellieux and Commandant Ravary of having made a flagitious investigation, whereby I mean an inquiry of the most monstrous partiality, whereof we have in the report of the last mentioned, an imperishable monument of candid audacity. I accuse the three experts in handwriting, the men Belhomme, Varinard and Couard, of having drawn up false and too fraudulent reports, unless a medical examination shall prove them to be victims of disease of sight or of judgment. I accuse the officers of the war ministry of having organized a press campaign, in order to lead public opinion astray. Finally, I accuse the first court-martial of having condemned a man on a document kept secret, and I accuse the second court-martial of having covered this illegality by order, and of committing in its turn the judicial crime of knowingly acquitting a guilty person.

The French government was forced to prosecute the novelist for these unqualified accusations, and then began the long Zola trial, which, while it lasted, convulsed France and her colonies, the people generally taking sides with the government and the army against Zola and the friends of Dreyfus. Serious riots occurred in Paris. Zola's life became continually threatened and several Hebrew stores wrecked. After a stormy trial, without a precedent for its disgraceful scenes, Zola was sentenced to one year's imprisonment and a fine of 3,000 francs. On the novelist's appeal this verdict was annulled, but he was put on trial a second time last May, was again condemned to imprisonment, and on July 19, 1898, he fled to England to avoid arrest.

The government was now anxious to prove to the country that there had been no judicial error. M. Cavaignac, minister of war, declared from the tribune in the chamber that he had "an absolute certitude" of Dreyfus' guilt, saying in substance, that he had seen documents (the forgeries executed by Col. Henry) other than those produced at the trial which left no doubt of it. Six weeks later, August 30, Col. Henry made a confession of having forged "evidence" against Dreyfus, and the following day committed suicide. A few months later Colonel Henry's secretary, when summoned to appear before the court of cassation, also committed suicide.

Revision now became imparative, and in spite of the most strenuous opposition made by the army chiefs, the court of cassation declared there was justification for re-opening the case. Esterhazy meantime had fled from France and was now openly mentioned as the author of the bordereau. The government relentless in its prosecution of Col. Picquart, kept him confined in the military prison of the Cherche-Midi, in Paris, and he was only saved from being tried before a court martial before the Dreyfus case was decided by the action of the court of cassation, which granted a stay.

M. De Beaurepaire Resigns.

The criminal chamber of the court of cassation, under the presidency of M. Loew, began the work of revision on October 28, 1898, and early in January, 1899, it was rumored that the court had decided to grant Dreyfus a new trial.

On January 8 M. Quesnay de Beaurepaire, one of the judges, resigned, charging M. Loew with partiality toward the prisoner and other irregularities, which late were officially declared to be unfounded. The Dupuy government, however, as a sort of compromise between the two contending camps—the one demanding M. Beaurepaire, the other M. Loew—introduced a bill in the chamber changing the method of procedure in cases of revision, it being urged that the united chamber of the court of cassation and not only one section of it should decide the case. This bill became law after stormy debates in the chamber, and the united chamber of the supreme tribunal under the presidency of M. Mazeau, began its labors of taking depositions of witnesses. The testimony given was supposed to be kept secret by the court, but the Paris Figaro secured it and published it verbatim. Among the most sensational of the statements were those made by Mr Rowland Strong, who declared Esterhazy admitted being the author of the bordereau, which he said was written by the orders of the general staff, and those of Major Cuignet, who accused Colonel du Paty de Clam of being the author of the many forgeries.

On May 25 Colonel du Paty de Clam was arrested by order of the minister of war and sent to the Cherche-Midi prison It was also announced that the government would also prosecute all the other officers guilty of illegalities in the case. On June 2, Esterhazy publicly confessed that he wrote the bordereau, at the instigation of his superiors. On June 3, the court of cassation ordered a new trial for Dreyfus. He will be brought back, tried at Rennes, and his acquittal is regarded as certain

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MRS. LIVERMORE DYING.

Noted Abolitionist and Champion of Woman's Rights.

In the years from 1858 to 1867, both inclusive, there was no woman more generally known in Chicago than Mrs. Mary A. Livermore, says the Chicago Chronicle. There were few men better known, indeed. In the last years of the '50s, her husband was pastor of St. Paul's (Universalist) church of this city, and during the same period he published the New Covenant, a weekly religious paper. He was the ostensible editor of the paper, while the real editor was his wife. She wrote many of the leading articles and did all the reporting. Accordingly she early became known to the newspaper fraternity, who recognized her as a woman of great talent and—for a woman—a powerful personality.

She was one of the reporters at the convention in "the wigwam" that nominated Abraham Lincoln for President. Her opinions on most subjects were intelligently formed without long deliberation and on some subjects they were advanced beyond those held by most women of her day. Women's rights interested her from the beginning, and she soon attained to prominence among those who by speech and pen, urged women to assume and do bravely their part in the work of the world.

MARY A. LIVERMORE.

When the civil war broke out she was active in awakening the war spirit among the young men of the city, and when the time came that wounded soldiers were returning from the front she was on hand at the railway stations to receive and give them needed assistance. And when it was found necessary to organize patriotic charity of this description she was among the foremost in the preliminary work, as she afterward was in the work of the organizations.

She was a member of the sanitary committee of that commission. Her industry was untiring and her sympathies ever keenly alive. The two great sanitary fairs that were held in this city were largely promoted by her, and finally when the war was ended she was one of the managers of the soldiers' home.

It was while the war was being carried on that first she tried her powers of public speaking. She was frequently called into the country to address local gatherings of patriotic women and also to address mixed audiences met to consider matters relating to the soldiers.

Mrs. Livermore was during the war frequently in the south making visits of mercy to the sick and wounded soldiers in field hospitals, and she has often wrote home to the sanitary commission accounts of what she saw and did. There were enough to make a book and it is a pity they were not treasured. She made several contributions of a similar kind to the little daily paper that was the organ of the great sanitary fair.

One of the last important acts of Mrs. Livermore in the war time was her going to Washington bearing the invitation of the officers of the Northwestern Sanitary fair to President Lincoln to attend the fair. She obtained his promise to attend and doubtless he would have kept his promise had not the assassin struck him down.

After the labors and excitements of the war period, which she had so fully shared, it was not to have been expected that she would settle down to the humdrum labors and common cares of domestic life. Nor did she. The women who were just then beginning to agitate anew for "rights" commanded her assistance and she was soon a recognized leader among them. To further the cause she started the Agitator, a weekly paper, which was finally merged in the Woman's Journal of Boston. She presided at a woman's convention held in the old Metropolitan hall in 1866 at the same time that a rival convention of the Sorosis was in progress in Crosby's opera house. The members of the two conventions respectively were not so much rivals as enemies, but Mrs. Livermore and her followers carried all their points and in the end brought over the Sorosis to co-operate harmonously with them.

When Mrs. Livermore had decided to discontinue the publication of the Agitator she accepted a proposal from the publishers of the Woman's Journal to become one of the editors of that paper and went to Boston to reside. Boston was her birthplace and from that city she originally came to Chicago. Since her return thither and connection with the Woman's Journal she has not been in Chicago more than once or twice, though she still has many friends here. Her present home is in pleasant Melrose, near Boston, and there, according to all accounts, she is sinking out of life.

TRAFALGAR AND SANTIAGO.

A Comparison of the Two Great Naval Engagements.

In the course of a speech in London a few days ago, Mr. Choate, in dwelling on the events of the war, compared Dewey and Sampson with Lord Nelson. The claim of Dewey to rank with the hero of Trafalgar was well received, but a large portion of the English press, taking some of the assaults made by his countrymen upon Nelson as a basis, have depreciated his achievements. This in itself is not extraordinary, for it seems almost a sacrilege to the ordinary Englishman to compare any one with Nelson, but it is strange indeed that these belittling articles should have found an echo in this country.

The truth is that while not on as large a scale, the victory at Santiago was fully as complete as that at Trafalgar, and was conducted with almost as great a display of naval skill. At the latter engagement nearly one-half of the French and Spanish escaped practically uninjured, while the loss on board the English squadron was very heavy. At Santiago the Spanish fleet was entirely destroyed with but trifling loss. Before known in a naval engagement, and the American ships escaped with only the most trifling injuries.

A critical survey of the entire campaign fails to reveal a single mistake made by the American admiral. A dozen ports were blocked, a wide area of water carefully watched, and the whole fleet gradually brought to such a degree of efficiency during the long weeks of waiting that the result of the labors of the commanding officer told instantly when the fight began. Nor were his operations on a small scale. At one time Sampson had 70 ships under him, and taking into consideration the intricacies of modern naval manoeuvres, it will be seen that the task he completed was of sufficient importance to give him a just claim to rank with any naval officer.—Louisville Evening Post.

Her Preference.

Ethel—The man I marry must be a hero—one who can beard the lion in his den!

Percy—I see. Kind of a combination circus man and barber!—Puck.

EVANS' REPLY.

Says There is No Ground for the G. A. R. Complaint.

Washington, June 10.—So persistent has been the fight made on Commissioner of Pensions Evans by certain factions of the Grand Army of the Republic that he has replied to a letter from Senator Hayward, of Nebraska, giving some interesting facts touching the workings and management of the great bureau of which he is the head.

Nebraska's junior Senator was appealed to by his Grand Army constituents to find out what truth there was in the reports that Commissioner Evans had repeatedly and persistently ruled against Grand Army men in every way possible since he entered the pension office. Senator Hayward wrote the commissioner fully all the information he desired, and Mr. Evans replied a few days ago. In his letter Commissioner Evans goes into details and some of the facts presented for the consideration of Senator Hayward's constituents make very interesting reading. In the very opening paragraph of his letter Commissioner Evans says:

"There are 1,747 employes in my department of which 596 are ex-Union soldiers, and of this number 452 are drawing pensions in addition to their salaries. The board of review as now organized is composed of one chief, two assistant chiefs, five chiefs of sections, and 110 reviewers. The chief of the board is Col. F. D. Stephenson, who served during the entire war of the rebellion as captain in the 152d Illinois, and later as colonel in the 152d Illinois infantry. He was severely wounded and is a pensioner for that reason. Of the 110 reviewers 70 are ex-Union soldiers. A large proportion of the men employed on the board of review have been connected with the pension department in different capacities for from twenty to thirty-five years. The medical division, whose work is to settle all medical questions, especially rates of pension, consist of a medical referee, an assistant medical referee, two qualified surgeons, two principal examiners, and forty-three medical examiners. The board of review in connection with the medical division is charged with the adjudication and settlement of all claims and their action is generally final on all questions involved. The commissioner does not see one in a hundred of the claims that receive the attention of the legal and medical boards. During the first nine months of the present fiscal year 61,000 pension certificates have been issued, divided as follows: Original under general law, 4,594; original under the act of 1890, 22,227; increase and re-issue, 9,747; restoration and renewal, 1,157; under the act of 1890, increase and reissue, 10,685; restoration and renewal, 1,556; accrued pensions, 8,661; duplicates, 2,902.

"All of the employes of the pension department are under the protection of the civil service law. A majority of them are known to be Republicans. There are about 334 employes who are known to be Democrats.

"You are no doubt aware of the fact that Order No. 164, which was promulgated October 15, 1890, was substantially revoked by Assistant Secretary Bussey on January 7, 1893, in very positive terms. Under this order all disabilities under the act of 1890 were rated the same as those of service origin. Your attention is also invited to the act of 1890 with reference to claims of widows, which grants pensions only to those 'who are without other means of support than their manual labor.' In cases of invalid claimants it is held by the department that disabilities under the act of 1890 are placed by that act upon a different basis for rating than those under the general law. Under the general law disabilities are pensionable without regard to capacity to earn support and are graded without reference to this condition, while disabilities under the act of 1890 are only pensionable when incapacity to labor joins with incapacity to earn support, and the grades of ratings are dependent upon these two conditions.

"The bureau has been extensively criticised for adhering to this rule but as my functions are confined strictly to the execution of the law as I find it I am powerless to grant relief in cases that do not come within the rule.

"It is very evident that upon a careful examination of the act of June, 1890, that it creates conditions which are not applicable to claims under the general law, and that very much of the misapprehension and dissatisfaction with the operation of the bureau arise from a want of understanding as to these conditions. Thus, a soldier is entitled, under the general law, to $17 per month for the loss of an eye, but under the act of June 27, 1890, he receives only $6 per month, as it does not incapacitate him from earning subsistence by manual labor. So in case of deafness. A soldier who is suffering from a degree of deafness entitling him under the general law to $10 or $15 per month, has no pensionable status under the act of 1890, as the slight degree of deafness in question does not incapacitate him from earning a support by manual labor. A widow is pensioned under the general law, regardless of her 'possessions,' while under the act of 1890 the enjoyment of an income in excess of the amount she would receive as pension is a bar to pension under the act. Now, when these different conditions arise in the same neighborhood, people seldom stop to inquire as to the law under which application is made, and when a claim is allowed under the general law at a high rate for a degree of deafness which does not entitle to a rating under the new law, it necessarily results in criticism of the commissioner. And when a widow who is in affluent circumstances is granted a pension under the general law, while a claimant not nearly so well off is denied a pension under the new law because she is not without other means of support than her daily labor, it seems to the public to be an unjust discrimination on the part of this bureau. Yet the law creates these conditions, and it is not within our power to do otherwise than to execute the law as construed by the department, but in nearly all of these cases the pension office gets the blame when it attempts to carry out the law as it exists. The disability which entitles one to the maximum pension ($12 per month) under the new law is substantially the same as would entitle him to a pension of $30 per month under the old law. Yet we find that under the old law only 51,691 soldiers are pensioned at $30 per month, while under the new law 103,397 are drawing the maximum rate of $12 per month. Under the old law only 47,567 soldiers received $12 per month.

"During President Grant's first term, from 1869 to 1872, there were allowed in all 71,462 claims, and during President Hayes' term, from 1877 to 1880, 39,945 claims were allowed. During the fiscal year ending June 30, 1898, 52,684 original claims were allowed. It will be seen that the number of allowances for the year 1898 was greater than the number of allowances for the entire administration of Mr. Hayes. The commissioner, both deputy commissioners, the medical referee, chief of the board of review, and nine of the chiefs of division, and most of the clerks who fill important positions in the bureau, are all ex-union soldiers, and, as you well know, the entire organization of the different divisions, in appointments and promotions, the ex-union soldier always has the preference. The different commanders of the department of the Grand Army of the Republic have all commended the pension bureau for its faithful observance of the statute which gives preference to the soldiers of the rebellion."

Commissioner Evans closes his lengthy letter to Senator Hayward with information as to fees allowed to attorneys.

St. Never's Day.

When to his shop comes girl or boy,
The cobbler's stories to enjoy.
His eyes he raises from his task
And stops just long enough to ask,
"Your work, is it already done,
Before you take the time for fun?
To put things off will never pay—
To-morrow is St. Never's day."

A SMALL QUART OF CREAM

It Looked Even Smaller When Little Willie Called Attention to It.

Little Willie Jones, who lives on Indiana avenue, has noticed that the dishes of ice cream are always smaller at dinner when company comes. A few evenings ago, when his big sister's beau was invited to dine, Willie managed to get along with credit to himself until the ice cream was brought in, all together on a big dish.

"Oh, what a small quart!" piped Willie, in a voice of indescribable despair.—Chicago News.

BLADE IMPORTED ENGLISH CHINA

Tea Sets and Dinner Sets.

The Best Goods That Money Can Buy.

During the past few years The Blade has furnished its subscribers nearly 20,000 sets of American made china at an enormous saving of cost to the purchaser. With the return of prosperity there is a demand for better goods, from our class of readers who realize that the best is the cheapest, even though the first cost may be a trifle more. We have therefore arranged for a special importation of the following described six assortments, selecting for this purpose not cheap "scheme" goods which we can buy for almost half the price, but the very best ware obtainable, and the very latest patterns and designs. This class of goods cannot be found in interior towns, and if our readers had the advantage of the Chicago or New York market, they would have to pay fully fifty per cent more than our prices. Remember our prices include a copy of the Weekly Blade one year, so the purchaser, even after paying freight, is in possession of the handsomest set that ever graced a table, and at one-third less than ordinary retail price. It will be noticed that we ask more than our old list price for American goods, but relatively they are cheaper. These goods are worth more than double those we formerly sold—English ware is lighter, stronger, better color, will not crackle, next in value to French China, and more serviceable. The decorations are under the glazing, and will never wear off. We offer both plain white and decorated. We especially recommend the white, as there is nothing so handsome as plain white china on the table of either rich or poor. To those who like decorations our selection of blue illuminated with gold will please the most fastidious. It is very rich and in the latest style. Our illustration in this advertisement will show the plain white goods one week, and the decorated each alternate week.

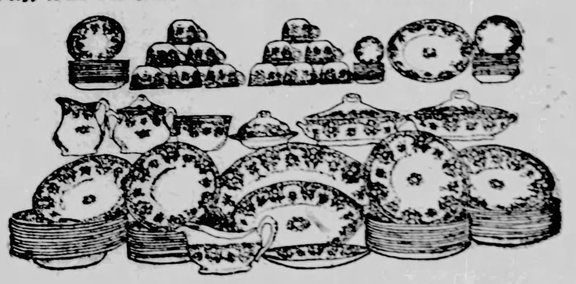


Illustration of the Decorated Tea Set.

No. 1—TEA SET, 80 PIECES.—12 breakfast plates, 12 tea plates, 12 tea cups, 12 saucers, 12 fruit dishes, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 cake plates, 1 sugar bowl, 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 water pitcher, 1 pickle dish and 1 bowl.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year, white porcelain, $5.00; blue and gilt, $6.00.

No. 2—TEA SET, 56 PIECES.—Assorted same as No. 1, deducting 12 breakfast plates and 12 individual butter plates.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year; white porcelain, $4.00; blue and gilt, $4.90.

No. 3—DINNER SET, 112 PIECES.—12 8-inch plates, 12 7-inch plates, 12 8-inch plates, 12 soup plates, 12 fruit plates, 12 individual butter dishes, 2 dishes, 1 boat, 1 pickle, 2 dishes and 1 cover, 2 butter dish, 1 cover and 1 drainer, 1 sugar bowl and 1 cover, 1 cream pitcher, 1 bowl, 12 tea cups and 12 saucers.

Price, including Weekly Blade one year; white porcelain, $9.10; blue and gilt, $11.60.

General Directions and Information.

Order by number, and specify white or decorated, as the case may be. The goods are carefully packed in a strong barrel, and shipped directly from the importer to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight east of the Missouri river, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Always remit by postoffice money order. If you must send currency, have your letter registered. Address,

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

THE ICEBERG DUNGER.

Constant Menace to Atlantic Liners In Summer.

Fortunately for their own comfort, the passengers on the Atlantic liners and their friends ashore do not realize the danger that threatens vessels from the huge icebergs that yearly on their journey southward prove a menace to trans-Atlantic navigation.

The four charts prepared by the hydrographic office in Washington from reports rendered by sea captains, show the course taken by the icebergs on their journey south and locates them at different points along their route. The shaded symbols represent reports received after April 20. Each report of ice seen along a given track is represented by a straight line joining the symbols placed at the first and last positions at which the ice

PRIOR TO MARCH 1, 1899.

was seen and having the observed number of bergs written upon it. The numbers opposite the symbols at the ends of the line are the dates referred to by the report.

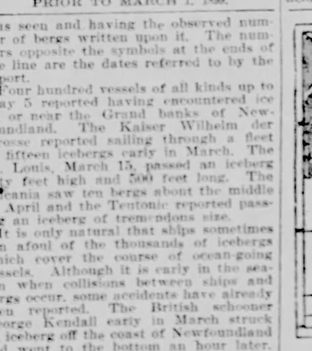
Four hundred vessels of all kinds up to May 5 reported having encountered ice on or near the Grand banks of Newfoundland. The Kaiser Wilhelm der Grosse reported sailing through a fleet of fifteen icebergs early in March. The St. Louis, March 15, passed an iceberg fifty feet high and 500 feet long. The Lucania saw ten bergs about the middle of April and the Teutonic reported passing an iceberg of tremendous size.

It is only natural that ships sometimes run afoul of the thousands of icebergs which cover the course of ocean-going vessels. Although it is early in the season when collisions between ships and bergs occur, some accidents have already been reported. The British schooner George Kendall early in March struck an iceberg off the coast of Newfoundland and went to the bottom an hour later. The crew, after many hardships, was rescued and landed on the island. Thirteen ships were jammed in the ice March 27 near the Gulf of St. Lawrence and one of them, the Gaspesia, was battered so badly that she was abandoned by the captain and crew. The steamer Kestalia in March struck a small berg when steaming slowly. Although the collision was slight, several bowplates were dented and a leak was started that for a time, and until the vessel was safe in port, threatened to send her to the bottom.

The hydrographic office reports the present season as marked by the arrival on the Grand banks at a date fully one month earlier than usual of immense masses of field ice plentifully interspersed with icebergs.

In a circular issued by the office to mariners instructing them to use extreme caution and directing them to sound fog-horns frequently during the night or foggy weather to hear by the echo if icebergs are near the notice says:

"The earliest notice of ice in such quantities as to seriously obstruct navigation was given February 9 by Second Mate Davey of the British steamship Elburz, who reported having seen closely packed ice and twenty-five bergs, about sixty miles from St. John's, N. F. The field ice," the report says, "disappeared



MARCH 16 TO MARCH 31, 1899.

rapidly after March 1, and only in rare instances succeeded in passing the parallel of 44 degrees north. Bergs have been abundant from the time of the earliest reports, many of them of tremendous size, one sighted by Captain Fitzgerald of the steamship St. Andrew being 600 feet in height and one and one-half miles in length."

Forecasting the outlook for May, the notice concludes:

"The character of the latest reports received during April show no evidence of failure in the stream of icebergs from the north, although the presence of fog on the banks from April 10 to April 20 has led to a diminution of the number of icebergs reported."

MARCH 1 TO MARCH 15, 1899.

A number of prominent American rug buyers are at present in the chief oriental market at Constantinople.

WATCH AND CHAIN FOR ONE DAY'S WORK.

Boys and Girls can get a Nickel Plated Watch, also a Chain and Charm for selling 20 packages of Bluine at 10 cents each. Send your full address by return mail and we will send them postpaid. Also a large Premium List. No money required. Address
BLUINE CO. Box 306, Concord Junction, Mass.

WANTED An energetic person to represent financial standing. Salary $15.00 per week. Experience unnecessary, but industry and good character must be proved. Permanent position. Address P. O. Box 193 Philadelphia, Pa.

$75 Month and expenses to man with horse needed; position permanent, self-seller. Home Mfg Co., Station D, Cincinnati, O.

A SMALL ARMY OF SALESMEN, local and traveling, is needed to handle our growing business. If you want a good position write promptly and enclose stamp.
AUTOMATIC ELEVATOR CO.
Ontville, Ohio.

PILES ELECTRODOL gives instant relief. Final cure in a few days, never returns, no purge, no salve, no suppository. Sent on trial. Address J. H. REEVES, Box 66, New York, N. Y.

DON'T BE HARD UP $2,000 A YEAR EASY

Gold, Silver, Nickel and Brass Plating. Plating dynamos, tanks, outfits, salts and materials for sale. Send stamp for catalogue. Prof. Gray's Platers' Guide, 502 pages, tells how to Electroplate, Nickel, Gild, Silver, Bronze, Copper, Galvanize, Oxidize, Refine, Assay, Make Dynamos and all metal goods. Scientific, practical, plain, modern methods. 2 volumes, 2 dollars. Only useful complete, up-to-date books published. Sold on approval. Write for circulars, etc. Prof. Gray's Platers' Guide, 502 pages, tells how to Electroplate, Nickel, Gild, Silver, Bronze, Copper, Galvanize, Oxidize, Refine, Assay, Make Dynamos and all metal goods. Scientific, practical, plain, modern methods. 2 volumes, 2 dollars. Only useful complete, up-to-date books published. Sold on approval. Write for circulars, etc. FREE. CURRAN & CO., PLATING WORKS, N. Cincinnati, O.

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THE HOUSEHOLD

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON

JUST TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE.

There are two kinds of people on earth to-day,
Just two kinds of people, no more, I say.

Not the sinner and saint, for 'tis well understood
The good are half bad, and the bad are half good.

Not the rich and the poor, for to count a man's wealth
You must first know the state of his conscience and health.

Not the humble and proud, for in life's little span
Who puts on vain airs is not counted a man.

Not the happy and sad, for the swift flying years
Bring each man his laughter and each man his tears.

No; the two kinds of people on earth I mean,
Are the people who lift and the people who lean.

Wherever you go, you will find the world's masses
Are always divided in just these two classes.

And, oddly enough, you will find, too, I ween,
There is one lifter to twenty who lean.

In which class are you? Are you easing load
Of overtaxed lifters who toil down the road?

Or are you a leaner, who lets others bear
Your portion of labor and worry and care?

—Ella Wheeler Wilcox, in Harper's Weekly.

Sophonisba's Pocket Book.

Sophonisba looked troubled.

I have learned to know that expression. She wears it whenever she is endeavoring with might and main to reconcile the irreconcilable. This time it was a little more clearly defined than usual.

"What is the matter?" I asked.

"I am afraid——" she began slowly.

"How I hate that word 'afraid,' I interrupted. "It is the cause of more weakness and failures than anything else in the world."

Sophonisba smiled.

"I ought to be like the small boy in Chicago whom the Tribune told about the other day, perhaps you think," she said. "Somebody asked him: 'Johnny, are your people going to take you with them on that trip across the ocean?' 'Yes'm.' 'Aren't you afraid?' 'No'm. Ain't afraid of nothin'. I've been vaccinated and baptized.' I might put fearlessness upon a little different ground, but it would be a good thing to have the strong faith of that young American, that is certain."

"And, anyway, is would be well for us to strike 'afraid' out of our vocabulary," I replied. "But what is the matter?"

"A curious thing has happened," she said finally. "My pocketbook has disappeared, and though I have looked in every probable place, it is not to be found. It should be in the house, for I had it when we came home night before last, and I have not been out since. You remember I took the key out of it to unlock the door."

I did remember.

"Where did you put it?" I asked.

"I think I laid it upon the mantel in the sitting room," she answered slowly. "But if I did, it ought to be there, unless"—she paused.

I knew now what she was "afraid" of. The fear involved a doubt of an occasional worker who had always been esteemed trustworthy.

"What do you think?" she asked, after a moment's silence.

"We have both been 'vaccinated and baptized,'" I answered stoutly. "Let us look the house over, and then if we do not find it, put its loss down to the malice of inanimate things and suspect no one."

Sophonisba acquiesced, as I knew she would, though she remarked that it would be a satisfaction to be assured it was where she had herself put it, even though it showed culpable carelessness upon her own part.

And then the search began! Even now my backbone takes on a curve when I think of those days in which, at every interval of leisure, I was bending over and peering under lounges, chairs and tables, moving furniture and looking into all sorts of impossible places for that pocketbook! It did not matter that Sophonisba would say—"I have looked there,"—still I looked. It did not matter that I remarked—"t is not there"—still she looked. It was plainly evident that each had more confidence in her own vision than in that of the other.

It is a curious little quirk of the mind that leads people, under such circumstances, to imagine wonderful possibilities. I looked for that pocketbook in places where only the deepest, darkest scheming could have placed it. I fathomed depths of stow-away chests that had not been disturbed since the last housecleaning. I climbed heights to shelves only used for articles that no longer had a meaning in everyday life, and with eager fingers penetrated into every crevice and corner in that vain search. I did not ask Sophonisba, but I think she went through much of the same kind of an initiation. We often came suddenly, she upon me and I upon her, on our knees, with head bowed low, before some article of furniture too heavy to be moved. We knew without words that it was not an act of devotion, but an attempt to reverse nature and stand upon our heads long enough to investigate the darkest recesses of the space before us. We never found a trace of the missing article.

I do not know what would have been the consequences had this hunt gone on much longer. It was not the value of the book or its contents that had held us to it so long, but the desire to prove the falsity of the suspicion which had entered our minds. It had grown, however, into a regular "spook," persistent and not to be dismissed.

One day a neighbor came in, and in perplexity related a similar experience to Sophonisba. She had returned from a shopping excursion, and laid her pocketbook down upon the table, forgetting it until she wanted some money, when she discovered its disappearance. But one person optside of the family had been into the room, and she feared—yes, she knew—she hated to say it, but where else could it be? She would not for the world accuse anybody wrongfully, but—

When the friend and neighbor had gone, Sophonisba turned to me and said, said she to me emphatically, accenting firmly each letter of my name:

"We will hunt for that pocketbook of mine no more, nor will we charge its loss to any human being. I have had a lesson. If it was stolen, whatever sin there is about it, I am answerable for. We deliberately place temptation before those who have neither strength nor wisdom, and then if they yield to it, we are shocked and disappointed. Had those pocketbooks been put where they belonged, they would probably have remained there, and we should not be ransacking our possessions with suspicion rankling in our hearts.

"Do you know," she continued, "I believe a large part of this petty thieving in houses comes from the want of thought upon the part of those who are robbed? We expect the same sense of honor, of respect for the rights of others from the ignorant and untrained, as we exact from those who have been taught from childhood regard for law in its highest aspect, as well as in the legal one. The latter, in many cases, is the only restraining force which they recognize, having never even heard that there is something infinitely higher within themselves, to which they owe obedience. We carelessly throw opportunities for self-gratification in their way, and then, if they, trusting that it will never be known, yield to the desire for satisfaction, we are indignant, and the next step is to get the "thief" out of the house. It is all wrong."

There was a moment's silence, then a quick gleam of mirth came into her eyes.

"I'm just thinking," she said, "what an all-round shock of surprise some of us would have, if we should be called upon to stand up in a row with all the people we have been associated with, for a final judgment to be passed upon our lives. Imagine our feelings while calmly waiting for our wings to grow, upon having the deed, which we were pitying the poor fellow at the foot of the row for having done, because of its certain punishment, shifted over to our own shoulders! I don't believe in that sort of a Judgment Day, but I do think that sometime we shall find that we are, and have been, our brothers' keepers to a much greater extent than our selfishness permits us to acknowledge now, even to ourselves."

Sophonisba sat silent after her last words, with a rift in her brow, as if overwhelmed with a sense of her own responsibility to those around her. Presently, drawing a long breath, she spoke again:

"But even if I were careless and must bear the burden of the sin, I should like to know where, in the name of the Great Horn Spoon, that pocketbook is at this present moment!"

Did she ever find it? Yes, after days of searching.

Where? Upon the floor, near a screen, in plain sight every hour of the day.

How did it get there? Sophonisba gives up that conundrum.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

The Cozy Corner

It is almost too late for any suggestion in regard to the dress that forms so important a part in the commencement exercises that are the principal events in the life of school girls during this month, which can well be named the month of Brides and Graduates. If, however, there should be some unfortunate mother whose sewing has been necessarily postponed, a few suggestions by some of the best authorities will not come amiss.

For those who can afford it, there is hardly a possibility of resisting the lovely mousseline de soie, made up over white silk, or satin, and this extravagance will be excused by me, sweet girl graduate this year, on the plea that the same frock will do service as a wedding gown a few weeks later in the month.

Every one to their taste, but I should have preferred a white muslin, either dotted or striped, made up unlined, and worn over an underwaist and petticoat of white muslin for my graduating gown even if it was an inexpensive affair, and saved the more elegant dress for the weddding, for no matter how carefully it is worn, a dress will lose its pristine freshness, and then our girl must wear at her wedding something that is not specially sacred to that important event.

As it is the rule to wear

"Something old and something new"—

at a wedding, perhaps it won't matter so much, after all, if the dress isn't perfectly new.

But about the graduating frock. If you do have the silk muslin, make it up over white satin instead of white silk; the glimmer and sheen of the satin is so much prettier.

Muslins and organdies of a fine quality can be bought for a very reasonable sum, and look much prettier and more appropriate for a girl who is not supposed to have yet entered society than a dress of any more pretentious material.

These dresses should be made as simply as possible and not overloaded with lace, embroidery or ribbons. A muslin dress prettily and plainly made will be very serviceable all through the summer.

Though all white is generally worn at commencement, slips of colored muslin or percaline may be made to wear under the gown on other occasions, thus making, at a slight expense, several changes of costumes.

The "Little Mother" who wrote so nicely for us a short time ago, comes again with some thoughts:

Mothers, you are moulding the character of your child; you can not be too careful, for the task is a delicate one. If you do not scatter love and sunshine in the home for husband and children what can you expect? They will seek it elsewhere, as a natural consequence.

My mother taught me no little prayer to say at bedtime. Gave me no good-night kiss; in fact, never kissed me more than a half-dozen times in my life, and I am now 22. She thought it was "useless, foolish, no sense to it." I had just as soon kiss the broadside of an iceberg there would be just as much affection displayed. O, how very wrong for mothers to teach children such frigidness. My sweet little girl is being taught differently than I was, thank Providence.

That is why there is so much unhappiness in some of our Cozy Corner homes. If the wife and mother is affectionate, cheerful and patient, the husband and father is the opposite and vice versa.

Sometimes the parent sets a bad example by using profane language and "slang" expressions which the little ones are only too quick to adopt "because mamma says it," or "papa does this or that." Do you see where the evil lies?

I think also it is very wrong to use liquors as a table beverage where children are present.

"Upon the youth of to-day depends the future of the nation," you know. How much a smile, a kiss, a little word in kindness spoken may help one of these little ones that look up to us as a pattern and guide.

Whatever we do let us teach virtue, honesty, modesty, affection and cheerfulness. Tuck the children in bed with a kiss and a prayer, teach them to be kind to animals and the aged and infirm, and you will indeed come Home rejoicing, "Bringing in the Sheaves."

"Do unto others as ye would others should do unto you," and I believe "others means every living creature."

But, lo! I have said more than my share, so adieu sisters and brothers.—"Little Mother."

Having just read Dorothy's letter I, too, offer my heartfelt sympathy. The Cozy Corner should be the very best place for the afflicted and oppressed. Where they "under mask," may relieve their heartaches which may save—perhaps a goodly number from the insane asylum.

Overwork, bad treatment and isolation are the causes of an enormous proportion of farmer's wives, being at the asylums. The very best physicians do not recommend tearless eyes and silence—for an over-burdened mind.

I speak in behalf of loving, kind women—who dare not say their soul and body are their own. Who would not under any consideration complain to their dearest friend.—E. E.

WHAT IS LOVE?

Love attracts, it is magnetic,
Love is soothing, sympathetic,
Love is incense always burning,
Faithful, constant, never turning.

Love is rapture, radiant meekness,
Love is strength, a balm for weakness,
Love is wealth and hope and duty,
Love is elegance and beauty.

Love is tune and love is song,
Love is always, love is long,
Love is lifetime's noblest treasure,
Love is thrilling, joyous pleasure.

Love is chaste and love is pure—
Love forever shall endure.

Rita Englehart.

When you are "settling" things after house-cleaning remember that dainty sachet-bags may be made for bureau drawers, and filled with the leaves of lavender thoroughly dried. Make flat bags the size desired of white mosquito netting, and fill with the leaves.

Pretty covers are made of mull, dotted or plain, with tiny bows of narrow lavender-colored ribbon fastened at the corners.

Before putting the bags in their places among your linen, sprinkle them liberally with lavender toilet water. The fragrance of lavender is very refreshing and is liked by almost everybody.—Laura Golden.

Emma:—A suit jacket and shirt of black cloth with several shirt-waists to wear with it would be the best all around dress you could have for the trip you contemplate making. You could have one nice waist that would do service for any especially fine occasion.

A black silk skirt is nice, if you can afford it. You are quite right in thinking that "a trunk full of clothes" would be of more trouble than good.

Cycler:—No, I do not think it looks "better in every respect" for a girl to wear bloomers without a skirt when wheeling. I think, on the contrary, that she does not look as well in any respect, as when she wears a skirt. It is easy to ride in any well fitting, short skirt that measures from 2½ to 3 yards around the bottom, so there is no excuse for a girl to omit the skirt from her costume on the plea of its inconvenience.

BLADE FANCY WORK CLUB.

The time for summer fancy work, something that can be picked up as we sit on the piazza or on the lawn, just enough to keep us from being positively idle.

For this, tray cloths, doylies, etc., are very convenient, and one can never have too many of them.

A Dainty Tray Cloth.

Take a piece of heavy linen 12 by 8 inches and buttonhole the edge in scallops with white silk, or linen floss. Draw a scroll design in each corner, or across the ends. These can be transferred from some of the pretty calendars, or cards that every one possesses, and thus save the expense of having them stamped.

Work in satin stitch with French knots, in pure white or colors. The white is preferable unless you are making the cloth to match some other work.

A Stand Cover.

This is made of cup-toweling, the plain linen being used instead of the checked. Cut into squares the size you need. Feather stitch the seams with blue silk, with a row of red one side of it and a row of yellow on the other side. Hem the cover and finish with the three rows of feather-stitching to correspond with the finish of the squares. If the material is wide enough the squares can be outlined, instead of being cut, and the colors and designs may be varied to suit the taste of the one doing the work.

As lace work is very lovely to do, and is at present very popular, one can have a piece ready, either a handkerchief or a strip of lace for insertion. This will always be an acceptable gift for any occasion, and the wise woman will prepare for Christmas, birthdays and autumn weddings during her summer vacation.

THE BLADE COOK.

One of the trials of a cook is to furnish tempting and seasonable desserts. In winter this is easier than in summer, as there is such a variety of pies and puddings that are welcome then, but extremely distasteful in summer, when we crave only fruits and ices.

We sometimes, however, tire of these and then it is a question to know what to substitute for them.

A very nice dessert is

Russian Cream.

From 1 qt., of new milk reserve enough to dissolve ¼ box of gelatine and put the rest of the milk in a double boiler on the fire. Beat the yolks of 6 eggs with 1 cupful of sugar and add the gelatine. When the milk boils, add these and strain all into the beaten whites of the eggs; stir all thoroughly together, turn into a mould and set where it will get cold. Turn from the mold when served, and pile strawberries or shredded pineapple with it.

Tapioca Cream.

Soak 2 tablespoonfuls of tapioca in 1 cupful of milk for 2 hours. To 1 quart of hot milk add 4 tablespoonfuls of sugar, the beaten yolks of 3 eggs, and the tapioca. Let this boil till it thickens then pour into the dish in which it is to be served and cover with a meringue of the whites of the eggs beaten stiff with 1 tablespoonful of sugar. Place in the oven till it is a light brown color and set away in a cold place till needed. Serve with whipped cream.—Mary W.

Small Cake for Luncheons.

Three eggs, 2 cupfuls of sugar, ½ cupful of butter, 1 cupful milk and 3 cupfuls of flour. Pour this mixture on a baking tin, very thin, so that when baked, the cake will be about ¾ inch thick. Cut in to small squares, spread ½ of these with a preparation made of the whites of 2 eggs beaten to a stiff froth with 1 cupful of chopped nut-meats stirred into it; place the remaining squares over these, making a very delicious sandwich.—L. A. K.

THE VAMPIRE.

A woman there was who heard a prayer.
(Even as you and I!)
From flesh and bones and a lock of hair
(He called her the woman beyond compare),
But he only used her to lighten his care
(Even as you and I!)

Oh, the walks we had and the talks we had,
And the best of our heart and mind
Were sought by the man who pretended to care.
He didn't—but why he pretended to care
We cannot understand.

A woman received the flowers he sent,
(Even as you and I!)
Honor and faith she thought his intent.
(But God only knows what the gentleman meant),
Yet a man must follow his natural bent,
(Even as you and I!)

Oh, the vows we spoke and the vows we broke,
And the various things we planned
Belong to the man who said he was true
(But now we know that he never was true)
And we cannot understand.

One favor she asked—but it was denied,
(Even as you and I!)
In some way or other he might have replied.
(But it isn't on record the gentleman tried),
Her faith in him faltered and finally died,
(Even as you and I!)

And it isn't the shame and it isn't the blame,
That stings like a white hot brand.
It's coming to know he would never say why,
Seeing at last she could never know why,
And never could understand.

—Mary C. Low, in the March Bookman.

THE INDUSTRIES OF THE NAVAJOS AND THE MOKIS.

Side by side in Northern Arizona are the two reservations set apart by the United States government for the Navajos and the Mokis. The former are nomads—people of no settled homes; the latter are "pueblos"—home-lovers, home-builders; settled and, in a measure, civilized. New Mexico and Arizona alone, in the United States, have formed the home of these Pueblo people. Along the Rio Grande are the most settlements. Farther west, in New Mexico, are Laguna, Acoma, the Seven Villages of the Zuni, and, in Arizona, the Seven Villages of the Mokis. It is of these latter and their neighobrs, the Navajos, that this article will treat.

The Navajos have a large reservation, but only a small proportion of it is suitable for agricultural purposes. Hence the Navajo prefers horse and sheep raising to agriculture. Wool is a commodity of fluctuating value, so, of late years, the more intelligent of the Navajos have preferred to convert their crude wool into blankets of their own style, pattern, design, and weave. Centuries before the Spaniards came into this region the Pueblo Indians had been growing cotton, and making textures of it; and there is no doubt but the Navajo early learned the art from his neighbor. The Spaniard brought the sheep, three hundred and fifty-five years ago, to the Pueblo Indians; and though, in early years, the thieving Navajo might have found great difficulty in proving legitimate ownership of the flock of sheep he claimed as his own, time kindly threw a veil over his doubtful acquisitions, so that now he is openly and boastingly a large sheep owner. In driving over his solitary reservation,—solitary because he is so shy that you seldom meet him on any regular thoroughfare of travel,—the tedium is often relieved by meeting a large flock of sheep, generally tended by a shy lad of tender years, swarthy and active, with long, flowing black hair, kept in place over his forehead by a high-colored banda, and wearing the white calico shirt and trousers which his ancestors learned how to make from the Spaniards.

When shearing time comes, the head of the household goes out, and deftly robs his flocks of their wool. Then he or one of his spouses—for he is invariably a polygamist—cleans the wool, cards and dyes it, and then spins it ready for the loom. Sometimes the spinning is done before the dyeing, generally after. The only machinery for spinning the wool consists of a smooth, straight stick, on about the middle of which a flat wooden disk is fixed. This helps to steady its revolutions. The spinner, squatted on the ground, with wool at his feet and the stick in his right hand, feeds the wool with his left hand, and with the easiest, deftest motion spins the stick on his right knee, pulling the staple out at the same time, until it is twisted to his liking. Then, in a moment, the twisted yarn is wound upon the stick below the disk, and the process repeated until the stick is full. The wad of yarn is then slipped off the stick, and more spun on. Now the warp for the blanket must be prepared. This is generally of cotton, the threads prepared in the same way as the wool before described.

The weaving, among the Navajos, is always done by a woman, and her loom is the most primitive kind in existence. With four poles cut from the cottonwood trees that line the streams of her sandy country, two stout, forked uprights, and a few other lesser sticks, she is ready to go to work. The uprights are placed in position, and upon two of the poles the warp is fixed. Then to the top and bottom of the uprights the two other poles are affixed with thongs of rawhide. It is now an easy task to take the upper and lower yarn beams and lash them, with horse-hair ropes or rawhide, to the frame already prepared. Then the loom is ready for the nimble finers of the weaver. But where is her shuttle? and whence gains she her pattern? The former is composed of a plain, simple stick, and the latter is mapped out in her clear, active brain. No two designs are alike; they vary according to the individuality of the weaver; and the circumstances in which she finds herself at the time of her weaving. Few people can realize, even when told, how much there is to a Navajo blanket of direct and peculiar interest to its maker at the time of its manufacture. As I once wrote:

"The tendency toward mythologic symbolism seems to be instinctive with the Navajos. Apparently, from their earliest condition their decorations have always shown this bent. The designs in their textile fabrics suggest their derivation from basketry ornamentation, as the angular, curveless forms inherent in the process of depicting figures by interlying plaits are predominant; and the principal subjects are conventional devices representing clouds, stars, lightning, the rainbow, and emblems of the dieties. But these simple forms are produced in endless combination, and often in brilliant kaleidoscopic grouping, presenting broad effects of scarlet and black, of green, yellow, and blue—a wide range of color skilfully blended upon a ground of white. But the greatest charm of these Navajo fabrics is the unrestrained freedom shown by the weaver in her treatment of primitive conventions. To the checked emblem of the rainbow she adds sweeping rays of color typifying sunbeams; below the many-angled cloud group she inserts random peril lines of rain; or she softens the rigid meander signifying lightning with graceful interlacing and shaded tints. Not confining herself alone to these traditional devices, she invents her own method of introducing curious, realistic figures of common objects,—her wooden weaving-fork, a bow and arrow. None of the larger designs are ever reproduced. Each fabric carries some distinct variation, some suggestion of the occasion of its making, woven into form as the fancy arose."

WEAVING A BASKET.

Lately I have secured some most interesting blankets which illustrates this "weaving by suggestion." One shows a railway train, with engine, headlight, smoke-stack, tender, and cars all well represented. Above this are flying birds, and below, a freight-train, in which are the figures of cattle. The weaver was living in her "hogan" by the side of the railway when she wove this blanket, and when I asked her the meaning of the design, she said she had merely worked into her blanket the passing trains and the birds that flew overhead as the trains went by. Another shows the same influence of the trains, with a rain-storm, in which lightning played an active part at the time the blanket was being woven.

With the Mokis the men are the weavers, and their looms are generally found inside their dwellings, or sacred kivas. The patterns of the Moki blankets are much more simple than those of the Navajo. A Moki rarely introduces anything but the stripe, the cross, and a simple fret or zigzag. But for their ceremonies they weave an excellent cotton fabric, and skilfully embroider it in green, black, and red in a complex and tasteful design.—George Wharton Davis in June Good Health.

THE YOUNGFOLKS

AND ISN'T IT MY BOY OR GIRL,
THE WISEST, BRAVEST PLAN,
WHATEVER COMES OR DOESN'T COME,
TO DO THE BEST YOU CAN?

PHOEBE CARY.

The Merry Go-Rounsd

Do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can.

How many of our girls and boys expect to graduate from High School, or seminary this June? Those who will do so will have a class motto, ring or pin and a class song, of course, which will always be very highly prized from the associations they will recall.

We, of the M. G. R., have our motto and there can be none better; our badge and now we have our M. G. R. song, written and sent to us by our never-to-be-forgotten Nemo, who seconds the proposition made some time ago for our next summer's outing.

It would be very pleasant if Miss Prudence and her "newspaper children" could take the trip suggested in reality, but as we cannot do so let every one who can attend this great exposition take copious notes to be given to the M. G. R.'s the following winter. That will be the next best thing to do.

And let each one of us learn the words of this M. G. R. hymn and sing them at our reunion. Here is Nemo's letter:

Yes, Quien Saba, let us charter the Oceanica, and all go to the Paris exposition in a body. When, at last, the great ship, with all solemnity, will have weighed her anchor and steamed off down the beautiful harbor of New York, with her cargo of earnest, God-serving souls, and with the American flag proudly floating in the breeze, as we leave farther and farther behind us that dear country which contains all those we love, and all that which we care most for, and as we entrust ourselves upon the bosom of the stormy Atlantic, let us all gather around Miss Prudence (who will be waving vigorously the M. G. R. standard), upon the deck of our gallant vessel, and while we are bravely trying to keep down the lumps which will surely be rising in our throats, let us lift up our voices and sing, with one accord, to the tune "America," the following:

We are a merry band,
All striving hand-in-hand,
Our best to do.
We try to be each day,
Cheerful and glad and gay,
Useful in every way,
And better too.

Long may our circle thrive!
Long may we upward strive!
May we do right,
Do all the good we can,
In all the ways we can,
To every one we can,
With all our might.

—Nemo.

A very good suggestion for M. A. G., and not only her, but any one who lives in a neighborhood where there are no church services, is given in this letter:

May I tell M. A. G. what I think about playing croquet on Sunday?

My dear, study your motto also this verse in Timothy: "Study to shew thyself a workman, etc."

I am sure that playing croquet on Sunday will not improve you morally. Why not gather your young friends and the children and organize a Sunday-school? If you can not do that you can certainly meet and sing and study a portion of Scripture or read from some instructive book or paper.—One Who Is Interested in Young Folks.

I just came in to-day a few minutes, just long enough to ask how many of the M. G. R.'s, if any, were present at the peace jubilee held in this city? I was here, but did not see the parade, but did see the display of fire works and it was beautiful. I have lost my badge and would like to have another, may I?—Blue Bell.

M. G. R.'s:—My home is in a thriving little city on the wind-swept plains of Southern Nebraska. A little to the south one can still see traces of the old Santa Fe trail or wagon route traveled by the gold seekers in the early fifties.

Last evening the people of this place were out in full force to welcome the hero of Santiago harbor—Rear Admiral W. S. Schley, who was on his way to Denver.—Nebraska Maid.

Did Nebraska Maid retain a copy of her letter? It is an excellent idea for all of the younger members to do so, and then they can compare them with the printed copy and see if any mistakes have been made.

It seems as if the M. G. R.'s, like Mr. Wegg, in Our Mutual Friend, are "dropping into poetry." Our St. Joe School-Boy send this effusion:

Down in the St. Joe valley, fresh and green,
Many a beautiful landscape may be seen,
With the river's bank just a mile away—
Here's my life's pleasure, I must gladly say.
Seemingly alone, and wondering how far
To my nearest neighbor, an M. G. R.

While thinking o'er those columns bright,
I wondered if I might cast a light;
A light that might see an endless day,
And guide some weary traveler on his way.
For we all shall meet at judgment bar—
Every one of the M. G. R.'s.

How many a battle have you fought?
How many deeds, so cruelly wrought?
Truly all should be up and a-doing,
Trying to conquer the evils that are brewing.
Holding up our mottoes, three as they are,
Should be the duty of every M. G. R.

Isn't it pleasant to hear from every state,
And hear Miss Prudence say, "You are not late;
Come in and wear a badge," says she.
I'm glad for mine, that friends may see
I'm not a hobo from Zanzibar,
But a well wisher of the M. G. R.

—St. Joe School Boy.

Another of our delinquent boys returns to us to-day, and we are heartily glad to welcome him, and hope to hear oftener from him in the future:

M. G. R.'s—Dear Friends: I suppose my name is forgotten by the most of you. It is so long since I have written. I have been busy most all winter and spring, and not much of interest happened.

A few weeks ago I took a journey. How many M. G. R.'s went to St. Louis, Mo., to see the Nashville there. I did. It was my first trip to a large city, and I had plenty to see. I did not get a chance to board the Nashville, but I got a good view from Ead's bridge.

It is a small cruiser, about 235 feet long, armed with 4 and 6-inch guns.

What is remarkable about the vessel is that it was the first one to fire at Spanish vessels during our late Cuban war.

I wore my badge, but could not see any one else wearing one; perhaps it was because the crowd was so large. It was estimated that twenty thousand persons witnessed the ball game between St. Louis and Cincinnati played while I was there, and that there were 30,000 people in the Union depot at the time waiting for trains to go to their homes.—Architect.

Maud Muller, from Maryland and M. G. are applicants for admission to our circle this week.

Dahlah sends her thanks to Evangeline and others, who have written her such kind and encouraging letters.

Again Miss Prudence reminds the would-be-members of this company of young folks that it is absolutely necessary that they endeavor, at least, to comply with the rules. The difference between a carelessly written letter and one where mistakes are made from unavoidable reasons, is quickly apparent to one who receives so many as the Caperone does, and while the writers of the letters which give unmistakable evidence of being their best, be it ever so poor, will always be given every opportunity to improve, the thoughtlessly or carelessly written letters will never be heard from.

Remember our Re-union, July 13. Send letters so as to reach this office not later than July 1st.

OUR WONDER COLUMN.

1.—WHO WAS HE?

He was born in Madrid, March 10, 1760, and was the most eminent comic poet that Spain has produced in recent times. His father was also a poet of some eminence, but knowing that literary labors brought small remuneration, he wished his son to learn the trade of a jeweler, by which, after his father's death, he for some time supported himself and mother. His best comedy appeared in 1790, which was soon followed by others. His numerous plays are among the most popular and successful in the language. He died in Paris June 21, 1828.

Pauline.

2.—CHARADE.

I am composed of two words
My first is with difficulty related.
My second sails over plains inundated.
My whole, according to the Rev. De Witt Talmage, is the grindstone of the intellect.

R. S. Walker.

2.—RIDDLE.

Of letters I have only four,
And do not need a letter more.
I stand for wit, for wisdom and fun,
Equalled by few, excelled by none.
I'm found on trains all over the land,
And in each newsboy's chubby hand.
Yet to me, it has just occurred,
That you can't find the "missing word."

Lancelot.

4.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

The area of a quadrilateral field is 2 acres and 112 square rods; its diagonals are to each other as 2 is to 3, and two of its equal and adjacent sides are to the other equal and adjacent sides as 1 is to 2. What is the length of each of its diagonals and of each of its sides?

G. W. B.

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell something about Deceptive Island and where it is?

6.—QUOTATION

Who wrote:
"Duty and to-day are ours; results and futurity belong to God."

C. M. B.

Answers to Puzzles Given June 1.

1.—The letters H and E.
2.—Wampum, aloes, moan, pen, us, m.
3.—Buffalo, Concord, Mobile, Providence and Phoenix.
4.—95.493+ inches, width of circular ring.
5.—Round Robin is a form of protest, or remonstrance, signed in a circular form, so that no name shall head the list. The name is derived from two French words—"Rond" (round) and "ruban" (a ribbon). The term was used first by the officers of the French government.
6.—Kant wrote:
"He who allows himself to be a worm must not complain if he is trodden on."

THE BISHOP AND THE BABY.

A poor little pale-faced baby,
Lost and hungry and cold,
With the chill wind pinching her tear-wet cheeks
And ruffling her bright hair's gold.

For just when the busy people
Were hurrying here and yon,
Buying their gifts for the Christmas-tree,
Her mother was suddenly gone.

She did not cry, poor midget,
But lifted pitiful eyes
At the crowds of careless strangers,
At the gray, indifferent skies.

Jostled and pushed and frightened,
A tiny waif of the street,
With the wintry darkness falling,
And the snowflakes gathering fleet.

She was seen by a great kind giant;
With swing stride he came,
Even then the angels in heaven
Wrote Saint before his name.

From the height of his splendid stature
He stooped to the little maid,
Lifted her up in tender arms,
And bade her not be afraid.

Against his broad breast nestled,
She clung like a soft spring flower
That a breeze had caught and carried
To a strong and sheltering tower.

In his thick, warm cloak he wrapped her,
The little shivering child.
"I'll find your mother, baby,"
The bishop said, and smiled.

That smile like a flash of the sunrise—
'Tis but a memory dim,
For the years are hastening onward,
And we are mourning him.

The white, cold snows are drifting
Where to-day he lies asleep.
After his life's long warfare
The soldier's rest is deep.

But of dear things said about him,
Of victories that he won,
No sweeter tale is told than this,
Of his grace to a little one.

TABBY ON A SALARY.

No ordinary cat, lazy and sleek and fat, loving a warm corner and a soft cushion, is suited to the task of earning her own living in this exacting world. No such cat need apply to the government of the United States, for instance, for a place on its pay rolls. Hundreds of cats are in the employment of the government, but they are nervous, active, keen, attending strictly to business. Let one of these cats be caught napping during business hours, and off goes her official head; but so long as she does her duty faithfully she is sure of her place, of an annuity in old age, and satisfactory burial when her cat's days are ended.

I do not know that the cats in the service of the government come under the provisions of the civil service. I rather think they do not; but, whether or not they pass an official examination, they must stand ready to take, if called upon, an oath of eternal enmity to mice and rats.

These cats are paid liberal salaries. They are on duty night and day—no eight-hour labor for them—and they need large pay. In addition to their salaries they are given a place to live rent free. They are paid all the way from five to ten dollars a year. Sometimes the cat force of an office in a large city will be paid as much as forty dollars a year, distributed around on the staff of the chief cat. Probably the average salary of two cats working together would be fifteen dollars a year. Not so very large a salary, to be sure, but yet, considering the fact that it includes lodging, and that not many cats outside the government service draw any salary, it is not so bad.

It is rather difficult to separate the items for cat salaries from those of other accounts; but Mr. Henry A. Castle, the auditor of the postoffice department in Washington, has given me some of these allowances, as follows:

Richmond, Va., $16; Omaha, Neb., $10; New York city, $40; Minneapolis, Minn., $15; St. Paul, Minn., $10; these amounts being per annum.

The auditor says that, in order to get all the facts as to the amounts paid out in all the offices of the country it would be necessary to examine vouchers for a whole fiscal year in over one thousand offices; so that one may see something of the extent of the cat service.

When Mr. Castle was postmaster of the city of St. Paul, he received a letter from an employe asking that the cat force of the office be placed on a regular salary. The employe showed that the cat ought to have at least a pint of milk a day, which at five cents in summer and six in winter, would amount to $10.04, and there would be other expenses if her family increased. He called attention to the fact that in two months the cat had killed no less than one hundred and twenty-five rats, the two highest runs being seven and nine. "Of course," the employe wrote, "she and her kittens could not eat all the rates, but I think this shows what a good working cat can do when she has the proper incentive."

The letter was forwarded to Washington, and the cat got her salary.

The government pays the salaries of the cats to the care-taker or janitor. He buys the supplies and keeps the accounts, thus relieving the cats of business cares, the signing of vouchers, and the like, and leaving them free to plan campaigns against the enemies of the office.

And these are enemies indeed; such enemies as the postoffice authorities have good reason to fear. In one city the postmaster had tried for years to get along without a salaried cat. Many thousands of samples of wheat, put up in small paper sacks, arrive and depart each year. The large sale of wheat in this city (Minneapolis), and the vast amount used in the great flour mills, account for the many samples received—upwards of five tons of these tiny packages in a single year. Business transactions involving large sums of money are carried on through the medium of these samples. Them, too, very many small sacs of ksample flour are sent out from the mills; and as the city is a distributing point for a large agricultural country, thousands of packages of garden seed also.

There is hardly anything that would attract a gray old rat or a twinkling-eyed mouse more quickly than one of these plump sacks of seeds or flour. Hundreds and hundreds of these packages were destroyed, and the postmaster was at his wits' end. Traps of every kind were tried without much avail; the pests kept on multiplying. Poison was used; still worse, for the few that nibbled it died in some inaccessible place, and after death they were bigger nuisances than before.

So, all other plans failing, the postmaster was compelled to hire cats. The department in Washington guaranteed their salaries, and has been paying them ever since. It would now be thought quite out of the question to run the office without them.

In old Egypt cats were held in such reverence that temples were erected in their memory, sacrifices were offered in their honor, and at the time of the death of a cat the members of the family shaved their eyebrows off, in token of their sadness at the passing of the sacred tabby.

I hardly think there is any modern postmaster who would do any of these curious things, but I fancy there is no one in any of the great offices of the land who has immediate supervision of these feline employes, who, at the death of one of these sober, faithful, alert cats, would not at least feel like giving her a comfortable, even, if humble, funeral.—Harper's Round Table.

TABBY GUARDING THE MAILS.

A YOUNG PHILOSOPHER.

My eyes are very much alike, as you can plainly see,
And act in perfect harmony, and never disagree.
When to the right I turn one eye, the other turns also,
And when I turn one to the left, so must the other go.
And when I wink with one eye, then the other wants to wink.
Oh, they are very much alike, my two eyes. Don't you think?

—Harper's Bazar.

News of the Week.

SOUTH OF MANILA.

Gen. Lawton's Forces Had a Severe Battle With Insurgents.

Washington, June 13.—The following cablegram has been received from Gen. Otis:

"Manila, June 13.

"Adjutant General, Washington:

"Lawton's troops had severe engagement to-day with the enemy in strong entrenchment at the crossing of Zapote river, near Bacoor, Cavite province; has driven the enemy with heavy loss; our casualties some thirty. Insurgents in this southern section not molested until threatened attack in strong force on Manila; now scattered and in retreat; doubtful if they make further stand.

(Signed.) "OTIS."

Manila, June 13.—4:40 p. m.—At daylight to-day the rebels at Cavite Viejo, dropped two shells from a big, smooth-bore gun mounted in front of the church into the navy yard. The only damage done was the splintering of the tops of the huge spars on the Mole. The gunboats Callao, Manila and Mosquito then proceeded to dismount the gun.

After breakfast the rebels opened fire along the beach to Bacoor.

After silencing the big gun at Cavite Viejo, the gunboats ran close along the shore, bombarding the rebel position. The rebels replied with rifle fire, and with the fire of some small pieces of artillery. So vigorous was the enemy's fire that at 9:20 a. m. the gunboat Helena joined the small gunboats already named, and the Princeton, Monterey and Monadnock, from their anchorage, dropped occasional big shells among the rebels. This, apparently, only served to incite the rebels, as they kept up an incessant fire of musketry and artillery near the mouth of the Zapote river, two miles north of Bacoor.

The fire of all seven warships was concentrated on this point shortly after noon when the upper bay presented the appearance of being the scene of a great naval battle. The rebels were eventually forced to abandon their guns after holding out for about four hours, only to be confronted by Gen. Lawton's force on land, and in their rear, where there was heavy fighting.

Beyond the destruction of several buildings along the water front, the effect of the bombardment is not known.

Manila, June 13.—8:10 p. m.—The fighting at Las Pinas continued hotly all day long. Gen. Lawton called out the whole force of 3,000 men and at 5 o'clock he was only able to push the insurgents back 500 yards to the Zapote river, where they are entrenched. The insurgents resisted desperately and aggressively. They attempted to turn the left flank of the American troops. The American loss is conservatively estimated at 60. The battle continues.

Manila, June 13.—3:35 p. m.—Information, believed to be reliable, has reached here of the assassination of Gen. Luna and his aide-de-camp, Lieut. Pasco Ramon, June 8, by Aguinaldo's guard at the headquarters of Aguinaldo.

Luna and Ramon, it appears, went to the Filipino headquarters to confer with Aguinaldo, got into an altercation with the captain of the guard and one of them drew a revolver. The guard then killed Luna and Ramon with their bayonets.

Manila, June 13.—(6:05 p. m.)—Gen. Lawton unexpectedly stirred up one of the liveliest engagements of the war, south of Las Pinas this morning, upon which occasion American field guns were engaged in the first artillery duel against a Filipino battery, concealed in the jungle.

Companies F and I, of the 21st infantry, were nearly surrounded by a large body of insurgents, but the Americans cut their way out with heavy loss.

The United States turret ship Monadnock and the gunboats Helena and Zafiro, trained their batteries on Bacoor and the rebel trenches near Las Pinas all the morning. Bacoor was once on fire, but the natives stopped the spread of the flames.

During the night an insurgent cannon was fired three times at the Americans on the outskirts of Las Pinas.

Gen. Lawton this morning took a battalion of the 14th regiment and two companies of the 21st regiment to locate the rebel battery and then two guns of the Sixth artillery and four mountain guns were planted against it at 600 yards distance. The rebels had a large gun from which they were firing home-made canister, loaded with nails and two smaller guns. Their shooting was most accurate. The first lot of canister burst directly in front of Scott's gun and another shattered the legs of a private in the 14th infantry. Several shots struck the edge of the town. The country traversed was as bad as it is possible to imagine, being mainly lagoons, mud and water tinged with bamboos. As soon as the fighting opened the American were attacked by hidden riflemen on all sides, even the Amigos, or friendly natives, in the houses of the town shooting into their rear.

The companies of the Twenty-first regiment, skirmishing along the beach, with Amigo guides, found, apparently a handful of rebels, who retreated. The men of the Twenty-first followed, and suddenly the rebels opened a terrific fire on the troops from the sides and rear. The soldiers withdrew to the water's edge, finding what shelter they could, and were picked off rapidly. After their ammunition was nearly exhausted the companies of the Twenty-first retreated, but Gen. Lawton dashed down and rallied the men.

A little group made a desperate stand, Gen. Lawton, Maj. Starr and Lieuts. Donovan and Connelly taking rifles from the wounded men and firing at the enemy, bringing down some of the rebel sharpshooters from a tree. Finally their cartridges were all gone, and they were forced to break through the enemy's flank, carrying the wounded to the main body of the troops.

Lieut. Donovan, whose leg was broken, floundered for a mile through a bog, after leading his men in the face of a greatly superior force.

Gen. Lawton ceased fighting until reinforcementse could be brought up. Two battalions of the Fourteenth regiment, and one battalion of the Ninth regiment were hurried to the front, and in the afternoon the battle was renewed. The Monadnock came close to shore, and her heavy guns pounded the rebels continuously, while the smaller warships, steaming along the shore, poured bullets from their rapid-fire guns at the enemy. The Filipino force engaged appears to have been the largest and best organized body of men which has met our troops.

The Americans are compelled to advance along narrow roads and over small bridges commanded by earthworks ten feet thick.

LAWTON'S MOVEMENTS.

Daybreak Advance From San Pedro Macati.

Manila, June 10, 4:30 p. m.—At daybreak to-day a force of 45,000 men under Gens. Lawton, Wheaton and Overshine advanced from San Pedro Macati, sweeping the country between the bay of Manila and Bay lake, south of Manila. By noon the country had been cleared almost to Paranaque.

The Americans lost two officers killed and 21 soldiers wounded.

The rebels resisted desperately at the stronger of their positions, and left 50 dead in the trenches. Many more wounded were left behind by the rebels in their retreat.

The heat during the day was overpowering, and there were many prostrations of American soldiers from that cause.

Manila, June 10, 6 p. m.—Gen. Lawton's force consisted of two battalions each, of the Twenty-first and Ninth infantry, six companies of the Colorado volunteers and a detachment of artillery. The Nevada cavalry was under Gen. Wheaton, and the Thirteenth and Fourteenth infantry, the Fourth cavalry and a detachment of light artillery were under Gen. Overshine.

It was scarcely dawn when the troops, in a long silent procession, wound up the hillside behind the American trenches, and formed a skirmish line. Concealed in the jungle, the advance rebel outposts fired a few shots before being seen.

The opposing forces occupied two ranges of crescent-shaped hills.

The artillery, the Colorado infantry and the Nevada cavalry swung around the hilltop on the left and opened the battle at 6:30. The rebels made no response from the hills, and the Colorado men cautiously advanced through the thicket grass until they were confronted by a trench, from which a few volleys were fired. A spirited response followed, and a charge into the trench found it to be deserted.

In the meantime, part of the Thirteenth and Fourteenth regiments formed in skirmish line, extending a mile to the right, and supported by the rest of the regiments, swept down the valley and up the hillside toward another trench. Approaching through the morass seriously hampered the Fourteenth, and the rebels, taking advantage of this, poured a galling fire upon them for 30 minutes. The Fourteenth was twice compelled to withdraw for the purpose of finding a safe crossing in the swamp. Finally the trench was enfiladed on both flanks. The rebels fled to the woods and sustained a severe loss.

Gen. Lawton then pushed his entire command south, through the center of the isthmus, until a few miles south of Paranaque, when he swung around and halted on account of the heat.

During the march the Americans were prostrated on all sides, owing to a lack of water and exposure to the sun. It is estimated that 40 per cent of the troops were exhausted.

The double-turreted monitor Monadnock and three other vessels shelled Paranaque this morning, and the rebels promptly evacuated the place.

Washington, June 10.—A cablegram was received at the navy department to-day from Capt. Barker, the naval officer in command at Manila, announcing the sudden death of Capt. Henry Nichols from sunstroke. Capt. Nichols was the commander of the monitor Monadnock.

Chicago, June 10.—First Lieut. William B. Westnedge, surgeon U. S. A., who is reported dead of typhoid fever in the Philippines, was graduated from Rush medical college, Chicago, in the class of 1898. He afterward practiced medicine in Dubuque, Iowa, where he enlisted.

FEEDNIG THE TROOPS.

But One Case of Loss of a Meal is Known.

Washington, June 8.—Among the reports which accompanied the report of General Otis regarding operations about Manila are those relating to the subsistence of the army. It appears from these that the subsistence corps was prompt in every way in supplying the troops with food. Under date of March 20, Major Robert H. Fitzhugh, chief commissary of the second division, says:

On the evening of February 5, after hard fighting, and a general advance all along the division line the troops were given their supper promptly at the regular hour; and during all of the subsequent movements, while the troops have been constantly confronting the enemy either in line or in the trenches, the continuous supply of rations has been maintained without a break, and at all times a reserve of at least two days of travel rations has been kept on hand.

The rations have been delivered, according to location, by escort, cart and rail; and due credit should be given for the great efficiency of the transportation.

I have heard of but one case of the loss of a meal.

VOLUNTEERS COMING.

General Otis Cables Regarding Date of Departure.

Washington, June 8.—General Otis cables as follows regarding the return of volunteers.

Manila, June 8.

Adjutant General, Washington:—Oregon request to defer time of departure until 12th will leave for Portland in transports Ohio and Newport. Sixth infantry upon arrival will relieve Californians at Negros. Hancock sails in a few days with Nebraska and other troops.

(Signed) OTIS.

CAPT. NICHOLS DEAD.

Remained On Duty to the Very Last.

Manila, June 12.—3 p. m.—The funeral of Capt. Henry Nichols, the commander of the United States double-turreted monitor Monadnock, who died from sunstroke on Saturday, took place at Cavite yesterday, with appropriate naval ceremonies. The officers of the fleet were present, and the flags on all the vessels were half-masted.

The sudden death of Captain Nichols was particularly sad because it occurred just at the moment when the result for which he had hoped and worked for for months was about to be realized, namely, the capture of Paranaque, and its occupation by the American forces. The Monadnock has been lying off Paranaque for two months past, under fire from the rebels almost daily. The heat here has been intense, and the officers and men of the Monadnock suffered greatly. The commander-in-chief offered to retire the Monadnock from this trying duty, and replace her by another ship, but Capt. Nichols preferred to remain, declaring he did not want to leave his post until Paranaque fell, and the coast from here to Cavite was cleared of rebels. The heat on Saturday was most severe, and the monitor was engaged all day in shelling the trenches at Paranaque and the rebels fleeing south through Las Pinas, and also watching the American troops closing in upon the towns. Capt. Nichols was overcome by the heat at noon, and retired to his cabin, where he received frequent reports of the operations and gave directions for several hours. He became much worse at 3 o'clock, lost consciousness and expired at 5 in the afternoon. Several hours before his death he expressed gratification at the way events were progressing, remarking to an officer: "We have got the rebels there at last."

An Excellent Combination.

The pleasant method and beneficial effects of the well known remedy, SYRUP OF FIGS, manufactured by the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO., illustrate the value of obtaining the liquid laxative principles of plants known to be medicinally laxative and presenting them in the form most refreshing to the taste and acceptable to the system. It is the one perfect strengthening laxative, cleansing the system effectually, dispelling colds, headaches and fevers gently yet promptly and enabling one to overcome habitual constipation permanently. Its perfect freedom from every objectionable quality and substance, and its acting on the kidneys, liver and bowels, without weakening or irritating them, make it the ideal laxative.

In the process of manufacturing figs are used, as they are pleasant to the taste, but the medicinal qualities of the remedy are obtained from senna and other aromatic plants, by a method known to the CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO. only. In order to get its beneficial effects and to avoid imitations, please remember the full name of the Company printed on the front of every package.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N. Y.
For sale by all Druggists. —Price 50c. per bottle

NEWS FROM CUBA.

DEBT EXTENSION.

Creditor Class In Cuba Will Present a Proposition.

Washington, June 9.—The Cuban committee which has come to the United States to seek a modification of the decree issued at the direction of the President extending for two years the time within which debts contracted in Cuba prior to December 31, last, may be paid, arrived in Washington from New York last night. It consists of Messrs. Fidel G. Pierra, Ygnacia Remirez, Pedro Gaibis and Emilio Del Junco, who represent a large creditor class opposed to the decree. They have a scheme for a proposed modification of the measure, which they will lay before the officials here.

PAYING OFF CUBANS.

Sharks Sell Fraudulent Certificates of Service.

Havana, June 7.—Col. George M. Randall paid 193 Cuban soldiers at Jaruco yesterday and rejected 44 others. This makes 1,437 Cubans paid by Col. Randall so far.

It was discovered that four Cubans were selling fraudulent certificates of services in the Cuban army, charging $4 each for them. This so enraged several soldiers who had legitimate discharges that they badly beat the sellers of the bogus certificates. Three of the four men escaped on a train bound for Havana, but the fourth was arrested.

Payment at Mantanzas.

Havana, June 8.—Colonel Randall, in paying Cuban soldiers at Matanzas yesterday found that the majority of them had turned over their arms some time before to Gen. Pedro Betancourt, the civil governor of Matanzas. A few of them had certificates but the majority had not. Consequently Col. Randall experienced difficulty and only paid 37 men, though over 300 were in waiting and wanting money.

FORGED CERTIFICATES.

They Cause the Arrest of Another Cuban.

Havana, June 9.—More attempts are being made to forge certificates of service in the Cuban army and another man was arrested yesterday on this charge. At Matanzas 165 men were examined yesterday but only 125 of them were found to have their names on the rolls. It will probably be necessary for the paymasters to stay there for several additional days.

The cab strike here continues, though a few vehicles, with new drivers are at work.

YELLOW FEVER BREEDER.

American Enterprise Rids Havana of Another One.

Havana, June 10.—Captain Weber, in dredging the upper end of the harbor, has cut a 1,200-foot channel through the artificial shore, and a hundred years accumulation of dumpage from the old Spanish slums has been removed from the Santa Catalena branch of the harbor. The former yellow fever breeder has been thoroughly cleaned, the shore scraped and the deposit taken out to sea. Some 10,000 barrels of lime were used in the vicinity.

The American civilians here have petitioned the grand master of Masons to allow the formation of a lodge for English-speakers.

FROM SAMOA.

The Settlement of the Trouble Proceeding Satisfactorily.

New York, June 7.—A dispatch to the Herald from Apia, Samoa, June 1, via Auckland, N. Z., says:

The British gunboat Pheasant and the Badger went to Malie to-day to disarm the Mataafas who have 2,000 rifles.

The commission will probably compensate the natives for their arms.

Malietoa Tanu will then disarm his followers, and the sailors will withdraw to their ships.

The new civil government has commenced operations.

The kingship is still undecided. It may be decided to abolish the office and appoint both Mataafa and Tanu as chiefs of districts.

"HOLE IN THE WALL"

To Be Completely Cleansed of Its Wicked Inhabitants.

Casper, Wyo., June 12.—The "Hole in the Wall," for years a refuge for outlaws, promises to be cleansed of its desperate inhabitants. The daring robber band which looted the Union Pacific express at Rock Creek recently and escaped to the fastnesses of their dens in the "Hole in the Wall" in spite of the fact that they were closely pursued over plain and mountain, are to be systematically hunted to their death. To this purpose the several railroad managers with interests in this state are organizing posses, and the outlaws will be given no rest. It is expected 200 men will be engaged in the big man hunt.

The state, express and railroad companies have offered in aggregate of $3,000 each for heads of members of the band. In addition to this head money in the event of success the men who are arranging for this chase will be armed and fed by the corporations and big cattle companies of this section during the time they are engaged. Thus they are enabled to enlist a typical band of rough riders and every man of them a dead shot.

HUGE RUBBER TURTLE

Now a Captive In Asbury Park, New Jersey.

Elberon, N. J., June 10.—Capt. William W. Jeffrey, for forty years a fisherman along the New Jersey coast, caught a rubber turtle in his pound yesterday, the first of the kind ever seen in this section. It probably weighs over 1,200 pounds, and is about seven feet in length three and one-half feet across the back, and three feet thick. The fisherman discovered it yesterday morning when he went to take a lift. They made no effort to bring it ashore until afternoon, when they succeeded, after much difficulty, in towing it a distance of over half a mile. After being beached, the turtle was pulled up the bluff by a horse. It was sold to Founder James A. Bradley, of Asbury Park, who will have it placed in his aquarium.

AGENT OF EDUCATION.

He is Accused of Making False Statements In Official Reports.

Juneau, Alaska, June 6, via Seattle, Washn., June 12.—The grand jury of the United States district court for Alaska has made a sensational report on the combat of educational matters in Alaska. The report says that between 1884 and 1897 inclusive, $415,000 was appropriated by Congress for education in Alaska, which, if it had been judiciously expended, ought to have provided a school system commensurate with the requirements and would have done so had not the general agent of educated wasted money in useless jaunts and in the establishment of schools at places where but few white people lived. The report accuses him of making false statements in his official reports and concludes by asking the secretary of the interior to relieve Alaska of this official.

PEACE CONFERENCE.

AMERICAN DELEGATES.

They Urge a Permanent Tribunal of International Arbitration.

The Hague, June 10.—The chief delegates to the peace conference met to-day to discuss German complaints against the secrecy imposed upon the delegates, and the consequence of misleading reports published, and it is understood that Count Munster, head of the German delegation, was instructed to propose that the protocols for the plenary sittings of the committees be published immediately after they are drawn up.

American delegates tell the representative here of the Associated Press that they are still confident of the adoption of some of their chief projects for arbitration, but the preliminary discussion yesterday indicates the impossibility of maintaining them all. For instance it is impossible to carry the proposal that the judges of the arbitration tribunal be elected by the highest court of justice of each country, as some of the European countries do not possess a judicial organization permitting such precedure. It is expected that the likeliest outcome will be that each country will be free to choose the manner of nominating its own judges.

The Americans propose to insist upon a permanent tribunal. If this is impossible they hope to obtain at any rate the institution of a permanent commission. They will also insist on other points.

Washington, June 10.—According to private advices reaching here from The Hague, there is grave danger that one and all of the arbitration schemes between the conference will fail. It is said that Germany is markedly hostile to the arbitration principle and is making an active canvass for the support of some of the second rate powers in her opposition. If this movement is successful, even in a limited degree, it is feared that arbitration is doomed, so far as this conference is concerned, for to carry any weight and show practical results the delegates must be nearly unanimous.

GERMAN DELEGATE

Resists Arbitration as Contrary to Divine Right of Kings.

London, June 12.—The correspondent of the Daily Mail at The Hague says:

"I learn that Dr. Zorn, German delegate, spoke on Friday against arbitration. He asserted that he was instructed to say that Germany could not accept the principle of permanent arbitration embodied in Sir Julian Pauncefote's draft. She objected, firstly, on principle, and secondly, on grounds of expediency.

"He then proceeded to argue that it was derogatory to a monarch's sovereignty and to a nation's independence. Arbitration agreed upon between two nations for a narrowly defined object, was one thing, and arbitration binding a nation for the unknowable future, was quite another. A king, holding his title by divine right, could not think of divesting himself of an essential part of his sovereignty—the right to shape the nation's course at a critical time.

"Emperor William, Dr. Zorn said, would not pledge himself to bow to the decision of judges not appointed by him on cases that had not arisen. These were the objections of principle. The objections of expediency were on the score of experiment and the possibility that the tribunal under the rendering of iniquitous decisions might bring the principle of arbitration into discredit.

"Dr. Zorn concluded his speech amid painful silence."

The Hague, June 12.—An authoritative contradiction is given to the report that there is grave danger of the arbitration scheme failing. It is pointed out that, although Germany may hesitate to recognize the principle, she has not yet raised any actual objections during the discussion.

TRIPP REPORTS.

Commission is Progressing Satisfactorily, He Says.

Washington, June 13.—Secretary Hay has a report by cable from Mr. Tripp, the United States member of the Samoan commission. Mr. Tripp reports the work of the commission is proceeding smoothly and satisfactorily. He has been elected president of the commission and Mr. Morgan, of New York, who went out as Mr. Tripp's private secretary, has been named as secretary of the commission. The report indicates that the work at Apia will soon be concluded.

HOBART IS OUT.

Will Not Run for Vice-President Again.

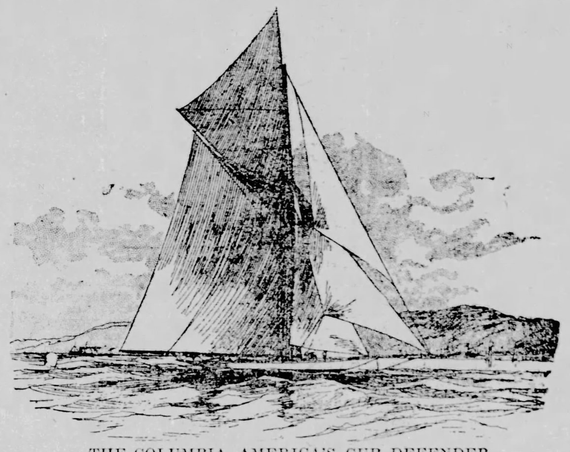
Washington, June 8.—Vice President Hobart will not be a candidate for renomination before the next Republican convention. Hobart's retirement is due to his physical incapacity to stand the hard work incidental to a Presidential campaign and it is said here on good authority he will shortly announce his retirement from official life. If Major McKinley could have his way, Mr. Hobart would be his running mate next year. The President, however, is aware of the fact that the present Vice President, on account of his physical condition, will not permit the use of his name on the Presidential ticket in 1900.

The positive retirement of Hobart naturally excites interest in the candidate likely to be selected to succeed the New Jersey statesman.

At this time the names of only three men are talked of by national politicians here. Governor Roosevelt is one, though Senator Platt may make it impossible for him to secure the nomination. Senator Lodge, of Massachusetts, is looked upon as a favorable candidate by the administration. However, the Massachusetts senator may consider that it would be unwise for him to go upon the ticket with Mr. McKinley, but the man whom he succeeded in nominating and electing governor of Massachusetts, Mr. Wolcott, will be Lodge's candidate for the Vice Presidential nomination. The fact that Mr. Hobart is really out of the race gives McKinley and his associates considerable worry. It will be months to come before McKinley is able to designate the man he would prefer to make the Presidential race with him.

No Resignation Yet.

Augusta, Me., June 9.—Secretary of State Byron H. Boys and Private Secretary Smith say that Governor Powers has positively not received any notification from Hon. Thomas B. Reed of the latter's resignation as congressman from Maine.



THE COLUMBIA, AMERICA'S CUP DEFENDER.

THE COLUMBIA.

New Cup Defender Lowered Into the Water.

Bristol, R. I., June 12.—America's new defender, the representation of the best boat building skill and materials of which the western continent can boast, was carefully lowered into the water down the ways Saturday evening, Mrs. C. Oliver Iselin christening her "Columbia."

The launching of the latest protector of Uncle Sam's sailing laurels was probably one of the most spectacular that has ever occurred, for the light of day had almost faded when she started down the ways and three powerful calcium lights played upon her white stern and shining golden underbody with theatrical effect. As she fairly cleared the shed a large silk American yacht ensign was broken out over her stern, the colors of her owners appeared on a small jury mast, stepped in place of the regular mast, and the New York Yacht club pennant flew in the waist of the boat. With the lights playing on flags and 20 or more of the crew on the deck, the scene was filled with animation and color.

The launching was a great success from beginning to end, being attended only by an unfortunate accident among the spectators. The explosion of a can of flashlight powder blew a leg and part of the head off Napoleon Bonaparte, aged 12 years, broke the legs of two other boys, and severely injured several other persons.

Neither the Herreshoffs nor Mr. Iselin would give out a single figure or make a comparison between the new boat and Defender.

A resident of Bristol, who has been watching the Columbia day after day, says that when the tape was run along from stem to stern she measured 132 feet 9 inches. Her beam is reported to be 24 feet 2½ inches, and from the top of her 10-inch crown deck to the base of the lead keel the new boat measures close to 25 feet, just about what the Defender measured. The keel is estimated to be 29 feet long at the very foot and contains about 95 tons of lead. Allowing for a free board of about three feet nine inches, the Columbia will be close to 90 feet on the water line when her spars, sails, rigging and racing equipment are aboard. Her draft will be 20 feet 3 inches.

London, June 12.—It is said the America's cup challenger Shamrock, will not be launched until the beginning of July, the progress of work on her being retarded by the fact that her designer, W. Fife, jr., is suffering from influenza.

According to estimate the contest from first to last, will cost Sir Thomas Lipton about $400,000.

Captain Hogarth and the crew of the Shamrock are preparing the rigging of the yacht.

ADMIRAL DEWEY

Arrives at the British Port Ahead of Schedule Time.

Singapore, June 12.—Admiral Dewey had cabled he would arrive this (Monday) morning, so Governor General Mitchell and the other British officials and Consul Pratt arranged a reception accordingly, but the admiral surprised the colony at Sunday's siesta by arriving at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Governor General Mitchell was at the time absent from Government House, and there was momentary consternation there. His aide-de-camp, the captain of the port, and Consul Pratt hurried to the pier and out to the Olympia.

As he is to be here only three or four days the admiral with regret refused the hospitality of Governor General Mitchell and Consul Pratt and remained quietly aboard the Olympia for the night.

This morning the admiral came ashore, escorted by a company of the King's Own. He made an official visit to Government House, which Governor General Mitchell will return this afternoon.

A big crowd saw the admiral and cheered him lustily, regarding it as an Anglo-American celebration. The Olympia had a fine voyage from Hong Kong and Admiral Dewey is looking well.

PUBLIC CURRENCY HEARINGS.

They Are Not Likely to Be Granted by the Committee.

New York, June 10.—The senate committee on finance met in this city yesterday. Senators Aldrich, Jones, of Nevada; Allison, Platt, of New York; Platt, of Connecticut, and Burrows were present.

The meeting was practically a caucus of the Republican members of the committee, as no Democrats were present. The currency legislation proposed by the house committee was taken up and discussed.

Senator Allison, the chairman, said that the committee was acting under a resolution of the senate providing for meetings by the committee to discuss the currency, internal revenues and changes in the customs administration. It had been agreed, he said, that sub-committees on the three branches would be appointed by the chairman. The size of the sub-committees had not been determined as yet. The time of the session, he said, had been taken up with a discussion of the way the sub-committees would go to work, but this had been left finally to them. No instructions would be given as to investigation of any particular point in the currency or customs questions. The sub-committees will fix the time and place for their meetings.

"Will the sub-committees give public hearings?" was asked.

"Well, they can if they want to," replied the senator, "but it is not likely they will do so."

DEMOCRATIC DISSENSIONS.

Some of the Seed Will Be Sown at Chicago.

New York, June 12.—The silver men of this state will send representatives to Chicago to the meeting of the Democratic national committee on July 20, to urge the adoption of a resolution, which it is said will be introduced by ex-Governor Stone, of Missouri, declaring that only such delegates as come from states in which the Democratic state convention endorses the Chicago platform, will be seated as regular delegates in the national convention.

Dr. John H. Gardner, of this city, a personal friend of Bryan and one of the leaders in the "dollar" dinner organization here, said that he intended to be in Chicago when the Democrats meet.

He said the proposed resolution agreed with his views and that it would be a good thing to force Tammany and the state Democratic organization to declare either for or against the Chicago platform in the state convention here.

A BRIDE KILLED.

Fatal Work of a Charivari Party In Kansas.

Wichita, Kan., June 12.—While a party of young men were serenading Mr. and Mrs. Ray Hixgins, near Watonga, Oklahoma, Friday night, the bride and groom of two hours appeared on the front porch and ordered the serenaders to leave. The charivari party, composed of about twenty friends of the young people, refused to go. Instead, they continued to make deafening noises by beating on pans and firing shotguns.

One of the party, Harry Randall, deliberately pointed his gun at the young couple and fired. The bride's face and breast were filled with buckshot. She fell fatally injured, shot through the lungs, and died an hour later. The groom was also shot in the face, but not fatally.

After the accident, the charivarting party fled. No arrests have been made yet. A young brother of the bride was also wounded, but not seriously.

THE HURST TROUBLE.

Neither Bishop Nor Mrs. Hurst Seek Divorce.

Washington, June 7.—A deed has been recorded here by which Bishop John F. Hurst, of the Methodist Episcopal church, transferred through an intermediary, to his wife, Ella Root Hurst, their fine home on Massachusetts avenue, in the fashionable part of the city, and caused a great deal of comment here today, it being reported that the transfer was preliminary to a legal separation.

Bishop Hurst was out of the city, and his attorney said he had nothing to say about the matter.

Mrs. Hurst has been in Europe for two years.

Washington, June 7.—So far as can be learned no papers for divorce or separation have been filed either by Mrs. Hurst or the bishop. Attorneys have been here at intervals for some time representing her interests, but it appears their work has been to secure proper adjustment of certain property matters. The bishop has made conveyances to his wife of property in which he was interested only as her husband, so that sales could be made.

The distinguished Methodist bishop and wife have been actually separated for a year. Mrs. Hurst remaining abroad to prosecute her musical studies, while he remained in this country, giving much attention to the affairs of the Methodist National University. Intimate friends of the family, while denying that matters had progressed to the point of legal separation, admitted that the bishop and Mrs. Hurst had not been entirely congenial for some time, and had practically agreed to lead independent lives, at least for the time being.

It is said that the bishop's daughter by his first wife was not the cause of the separation, as had been alleged, inasmuch as she and Mrs. Hurst had always been good friends. The only difficulty seems to be the decided difference in ages, with the usual results.

The bishop is now 65 years old, and Mrs. Hurst is nearly thirty years his junior, and the only difference between them is the natural incompatibility of temperament consequent on the variance in age.

JAPANESE TYPEWRITERS.

Connecticut Manufacturer Adapts Machine to Language.

Stamford, Conn., June 7.—Before many months, people in Japan will be using typewriters, provided with characters of their own language, made by a local manufacturing company. It has been generally supposed that the Japanese and the Chinese would have to adopt some other language if they were to adopt the typewriter. The multiplicity of characters in use seemed to render impossible any atempt to manufacture a satisfactory writing machine for the inhabitants of these countries. So far as the Chinese are concerned, this is probably true. But it has been, or soon will be, demonstrated that Japanese characters can be produced by means of the typewriter.

In the Japanese, like the Chinese, language, the printed characters read up and down the printed page and from right to left instead of across it and from left to right as in other languages. To conform to this practice was easy enough. It was only required that the characters on the typewriter be placed in a different position. It was the fact that so many characters are needed that seemed to make the typewriter out of the question. This apparently impossible obstacle has been surmounted.

Japan will owe to a government official of that country the credit for introducing the typewriter. This Japanese gentleman came to this country in the suite of a cabinet minister of Japan, with others whose visit to America was made for the purpose, mainly, of examining American machinery with a view to its introduction in their own country.

The first thing he will do when he reaches home is to set an expert engraver at work upon characters from which the letters for the new Japanese typewriter will be modelled. The engraving could be done in this country, but, as American engravers are not familiar with the Japanese language, and as it is desired that each character shall be perfectly formed, it was thought best to have the first work done in Japan. Within a short time after the engraved characters reach Stamford, Japanese typewheels for typewriters will be manufactured, and there is every reason for believing that soon thousands of the machines will be in active use in Japan. It is expected that the government will be the first to avail itself of the machines.

TWO THOUSAND

Workingmen Are Affected by Increase in Wages.

Birmingham, Ala., June 12.—About two thousand men employed in the Republic Iron and Steel company's rolling and steel mills in this district will receive advanced wages under the operation of the new amalgamated scale. The total increase of pay rolls will approximate about $50,000 per month.

FOREIGN NEWS.

SITUATION IN THE TRANSVAAL.

If President Kruger Does Not Back Down War is Inevitable.

London, June 10.—It is not improbable that the crisis in the Transvaal will be hastened to-day by some untoward incident at Johannesburg. J. B. Robinson, the South African millionaire and mine owner, received a telegram to-day from his agent at Johannesburg, saying the situation there is most serious. The agent added that a mass meeting of Uitlanders will be held to-day in order to confirm and support the proposals of the British high commissioner, Sir Alfred Milner. As open air meetings are not allowed without permission, it is not improbable, if the necessary permission is not obtained, that the police will endeavor to stop the meeting.

The concensus of opinion among prominent Uitlanders and South African capitalists in London is that the British government is in a tight fix, that it cannot retreat from its position and that if President Kruger does not recede, war is inevitable.

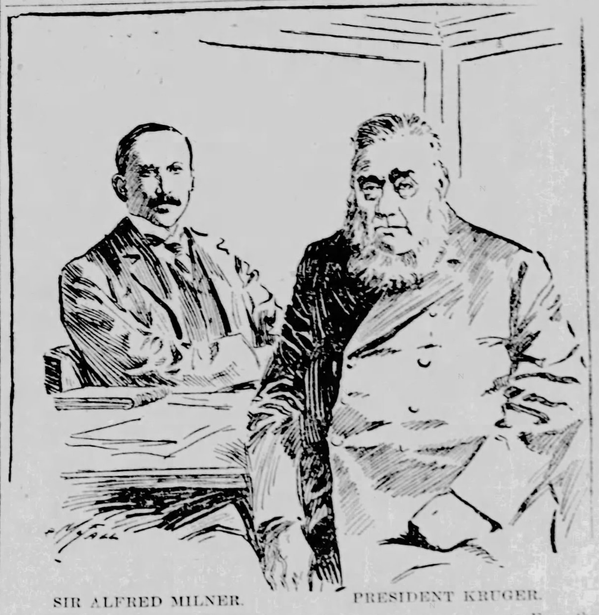
Regarding the suggestion that the United States be asked to mediate between the Transvaal and Great Britain, Joseph H. Choate, the United States ambassador, says: "While every good American would welcome the possibility of helping a solution of the present situation, we have not been approached in the matter, and I personally, know nothing of this proposed mediation by America."

An official of the foreign office, in conversation with a representative of the Associated Press, says: "We have not approached America, nor has America approached us in this matter, and it is very unlikely that America will be asked to do anything of the kind, much as we value the good feeling existing between the two countries."

A detachment of 200 royal engineers sailed to-day for South Africa from Southampton.

Pretoria, Transvaal Republic, June 10.—After deliberation in secret all the morning, the Volksraad yesterday afternoon approved President Kruger's franchise proposals and instructed the government to draw them up in the form of a law, which will be submitted to the Volksraad.

The Volksraad yesterday also passed a resolution of regret that the British high commissioner had not accepted President Kruger's proposals which the Volksraad "considers in the highest degree reasonable."



SIR ALFRED MILNER. PRESIDENT KRUGER.

Sir Alfred Milner, representing the British government, and President Kruger, had a conference at Bloemfontein, to settle the Transvaal troubles, but they failed to reach an agreement. From the tone of the London dispatches, a conflict between the Boer republic and England is considered inevitable unless President Kruger recedes from his position.

GEN. WOLSELEY

Getting Things In Readiness for South Africa.

London, June 12.—Commander-in-Chief Lord Wolseley has been busy for several days and evenings at the war office, preparing for possible eventualities in South Africa. The effective lists of the first-class reserve have been prepared, and transportation for the First army corps has been provisionally arranged. The officers on furlough have been warned to hold themselves in readiness to return to their regiments. The general trend of news, however, is more pacific.

FROM DEVIL'S ISLAND.

Dreyfus Taken Aboard the Sfax On June 8.

Cayenne, French Guiana, June 8.—The dispatch boat Goeland will leave here at 2 o'clock this afternoon for Devil's Island in order to take Dreyfus on board the cruiser Sfax, which will anchor this afternoon off the island.

The governor of Cayenne issued orders yesterday to the authorities of the Iles du Salut, (Salvation Islands), to prepare the quarantine necessary for the voyage of the Sfax, whose hurried departure from the island of Martinique only allowed her to take on board the stores she needed. The Sfax will probably leave for Brest to-morrow morning.

The dispatch boat Goeland was sent to Devil's Island ahead of time, by order of the governor of French Guiana, leaving here at 6 o'clock this morning. This was done on account of the great number of people who proposed to go to Devil's Island on board the Goeland. In addition, the governor refused to allow persons permission to go to the island by any other means of transportation.

PICQUART RELEASED.

He Was Imprisoned Nearly One Year Ago.

Paris, June 9.—Lieutenant Colonel Picquart has been provisionally released from custody.

When it became known that the order for the release of Picquart had been issued, M. Gasc, mayor of Ville d'Avray, and the prisoner's brother-in-law, and M. Hild, Maitre Laberi's secretary, proceeded to the prison of LaSante, and met Piquart, who was released at about 3 o'clock, and proceeded to the residence of M. Gasc.

Lieut. Col. Picquart was imprisoned in July last, charged with communicating confidential documents, and he has since been accused of fabricating a document intended to compromise Major Count Esterhazy.

CABINET CHANGE.

French Ministry Steps Down and Out.

Paris, June 12.—The cabinet has resigned.

Paris, June 13.—President Loubet conferred with the president of the senate, M. Falleres, and with the president of the chamber of deputies, M. Deschanet, this morning, and impressed them with the necessity of quickly ending the cabinet crisis.

It is believed that M. Poincare will be asked to form a cabinet. It is understood that he is ready to accept the task, and it is even said that he has already selected a cabinet, to be composed as follows:

M. Poincare—Premier and Minister of Public Instruction.

M. Delcasse—Minister of the Interior.

M. Bourgeois—Minister of Foreign Affairs.

M. Krantz—Minister of War.

M. Mercier or M. Delombre—Minister of Finance.

M. Waldeck-Rousseau or M. Monis, Minister of Justice.

M. Lanessan—Minister of Commerce.

M. Sarrien—Minister of Public Works.

Senator Jean Dupuy—Minister of Agriculture.

M. Guillain—Minister of the Colonies.

PARIS IS ABANDONED.

The Fine Liner is Now a Helpless Wreck.

Coverack, Cornwall, June 10.—The American line steamer Paris, which ran on the rocks off the Manacles May 21, is now known to be doomed. A southeast wind is blowing, bringing in heavy seas, which are driving the steamer astern landwards. Her boilers have shifted, her false bottoms are gone and the divers are unable to work. The officers of the steamer leave her to-day.

The agents refused to pay the men's fares home which the sailors strongly resented as they had stood by the ship until nearly the end. There are now 20 feet of water in the holds of the Paris.

The quartermaster, who was on deck when the steamer struck, says he saw a warning flare from a pilot boat but that it was not interpreted as a sign that the Paris was in a dangerous position. The ship's helm was nearly starboarded in order to clear the pilot boat and the course W. N. W. was immediately resumed. He adds that but for this temporary alteration the Paris would have sunk alongside the Mohegan.

With the exception of about a dozen men, who remain with the captain and three officers, all the crew of the Paris have left her. On the arrival of the last batch o fthe crew at Falmouth, to be paid off, a fracas occurred with the agents and the underwriters.

AMERICAN GOLD.

Bank of England Must Have It for Reserve.

London, June 10.—It is understood the Bank of England has bought £500,000 ($2,500,000) in American eagles, to strengthen its reserve, to which end most of the gold now on its way hither will be devoted. The report that Russia is a buyer of gold in New York is regarded here as being significant.

Protection for Agriculture.

Copenhagen, June 9.—The minister of finance to-day informed a deputation of agriculturists that the government intends to appoint a commission to consider the imposition of a protectionist duty upon agricultural products.

STARTLING REVELATION.

The Remarkable Achievements of Prof. Weltmer, the Great Healer, Are Causing Universal Astonishment.

WASHINGTON.

GENERAL MILES.

He Wishes to Be Sent to the Philippines.

Washington, June 9.—Gen. Nelson A. Miles has asked President McKinley to assign him to duty in the Philippines.

Major General Miles has been anxious to serve his country in an active capacity ever since the United States congress declared war against Spain. He made a brief trip to Cuba and subsequently commanded the expedition to Porto Rico. His efforts there were successful. His friendes say that he now desires to command the United States troops in the Philippines and has asked the President to make this assignment, but Major McKinley has not yet decided what he will do. It would be politic for him to have Gen. Miles take the place of Gen. Otis as commanding general of our forces at Manila. Friends of Gen. Miles say that his idea in asking for this assignment is to assist the government in quelling the rebellion in the Philippines. He is aware of the fact that it will take him nearly two months to reach Manila in the event that the President decides to give him the command he has asked for. It would be a favorable time for Gen. Miles to reach Manila. The rainy season would be over, the war department would have 30,000 regulars at Manila by that time and the outcome would be favorable to Miles. this would be due to the fact that the insurgents would realize they were making a fight against unsurmountable difficulties. The United States will win and Gen. Miles would reap the benefits in having conducted a campaign beneficial to himself and successful to the United States troops.

VOLUNTEERS FOR MANILA.

Raw Recruits to Be Placed With Veterans.

Washington, June 9.—The cabinet in connection with the possible necessity of enlisting a force of volunteers, to-day discussed a plan for the enlistment of several skeleton regiments in Manila from among the volunteers who desire to remain in the service, and the subsequent filling out of these regiments with recruits enlisted in this country. General Otis, according to this plan, would be given the authority to select the officers of these regiments from among the volunteer officers, who are to be mustered out. The plan, which commends itself to the favor of the members of the cabinet generally, would form a nucleus of veteran officers and men, seasoned to the climate and familiar with the work to be done. Such a force, leavened with veterans, doubtless would be immeasureably superior to a force of raw recruits, undisciplined and unacclimated. The plan was only discussed in connection with future contingencies, and did not reach the stage of action. The President announced to the cabinet the names of the members of the Nicaraguan canal commission and there was unanimous concurrence in the selections.

UNITED STATES ARMY.

Late Construction of the Law Provides More Regulars.

Washington, June 9.—Instructions have been sent to all recruiting offices in the United States to enlist as many men as possible for service in the Philippines until further orders.

Thanks to an interpretation of the army reorganization law made by the comptroller of the treasury, the regular army has been unexpectedly increased by 2,600 men, and the President is spared the necessity of calling for volunteers or depleting the force now maintained in Cuba and Porto Rico.

Under the decision rendered to the war department by the comptroller, the hospital corps, heretofore counted a part of the regular establishment, is not to be so considered, so that its 2,600 men, while still retained in service, create that number of vacancies in the regular army, which will be promptly filled.

Orders have already been issued by the department directing the 2,500 recruits now at the Presido, San Francisco, to proceed within the next ten days to Manila, and, reinforced by the additional 2,600 men to be recruited, General Otis' regular force will consist of 29,000 men.

POSSIBLE AGREEMENT.

Modus Vivendi Relative to Alaskan Boundary.

Washington, June 9.—Up to the time the cabinet met to-day, no word had come from London to indicate that the modus vivendi relative to the Alaskan boundary had been signed.

The technical state of the case is that the British and American sides had agreed upon the principles, as it was supposed that should govern in the arrangement of the modus. This was based on a proposition emanating from the British side in its last stage. This proposition was acceptable to the United States. But, in some points, it was so vague as to warrant the apprehension that it might contain within it the germs of disagreement in the not-distant future. Therefore, in accepting the British proposition in principle, the United States specifically defined these points in a manner to remove any possibility of double construction. If the British government accepts this precise statement, the modus vivendi will be an accomplished fact, and upon this acceptance our government waits; it may come at any moment, and it is subject to delay if there is a further reference to Canada.

CENSUS GUESSES.

Population for 1900 Estimated at Seventy-Seven Millions.

Washington, June 7.—The official guess at the population of the United States, according to the twelfth census, is something more than 77,000,000, or an increase of about 15,000,000 in ten years. Dr. F. H. Wines, the assistant director of the census, sounds a note of warning to those who look for a population of 80,000,000 or more in 1900.

The government actuary, J. S. McCoy, estimates that the population of the United States in June, 1900, will be 77,676,000. It is now, according to his estimate, 76,011,000.

The most elaborate and scientific guess at the population has been made by Dr. H. S. Pritchett, superintendent of the coast and geodetic survey, who predicts that the twelfth census will show a population of 77,472,000. His estimate is 204,000 smaller than that of the government actuary. Dr. Pritchett obtains his figures by means of a formula based upon the growth of the population as shown at the census periods from 1790 to 1890.

NEW ENGLAND TRIP.

The President's Itinerary is Almost Completed.

Washington, June 12.—The itinerary of the President's New England trip is almost completed. He will leave here on Friday, June 16, for Holyoke, Mass., where he will be the guest on Saturday and Sunday of the Hon. William Whiting, who served with the President during his congressional career. On Monday, the President will go to Northampton to attend the Ivy day exercises at Smith college and on Tuesday to South Hadley to attend the graduating exercises at Mount Holyoke seminary. His niece will be one of the graduates. On Wednesday he will go to Springfield and on Thursday to Adams, Mass., where he will be the guest for several days of W. B. Plunkett, president of the Home Market club, of Boston. The President will be gone about ten days. Mrs. McKinley will accompany the President.

President's Appointments.

Washington, June 7.—The President has made the following appointments:

Clinton T. Stranahan, of Lewiston, Idaho, agent for the Indians of the Nez Perces agency in Idaho; William R. Logan, of Alhambra, Mont.; agent for the Indians of the Blackfeet agency in Montana; James F. Randlett, of California, agent for the Indians of the Kiowa agency in Oklahoma Territory; Peter L. Morris, of Bozeman, Mont., mineral land commissioner in the Bozeman land district in Montana.

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OUR GOLD SUPPLY.

Wealth of Yellow Metal Exceeds One Billion.

Washington, June 12.—Uncle Sam has sent $5,500,000 in gold to Europe during the last ten days. During the same period $750,000 came from France and a similar amount from Australia, making the net export $4,000,000. This movement has started financiers to speculating and prophesying, but really $4,000,000 is hardly more than pocket money for Uncle Sam. The government officials who keep tab on his finances say this is naturally the season for sending yellow metal to Europe to settle for sugar, silks, wines and a thousand other good things Uncle Sam's nephews and nieces have enjoyed during the preceding year. If gold were not exported the condition would be considered abnormal, just as they were a year ago when the flow was in the other direction, and a tremendous yellow stream poured into United States treasury and American bank vaults.

But the serenity of Washington officials is based on something more substantial than a philosophy born of precedents. They find that the United States has the largest stock of gold in the world. They figure the supply of coin and bullion at a round $1,000,000,000, and say this is the first nation to reach such a lofty pinnacle of wealth. George E. Roberts, director of the mints, reports that on June 1 the gold coin in the United States amounted to $863,741,252, while the bullion in the national treasuries aggregated $135,742,352. This makes a total of $985,483,504, and Mr. Roberts says there was undoubtedly enough bullion in private hands to bring the grand aggregate above $1,000,000,000. Compare this with the stock of $135,000,000 in 1873, $352,000,000 in 1880, $695,000,000 in 1890, $598,000,000, in 1893, and $696,000,000 June 30, 1897.

The immensity of Uncle Sam's stock of gold is staggering, but that is not the only reason for official complacency. It is one of the wonderful facts of financial history that the United States has increased its stock of gold during the calendar year of 1898 by the sum of $202,000,000 without raising any of it on bonds. It is true that $200,000,000 of war bonds were sold, but they went to the American people. Little or no gold was used in the transaction and it has no effect upon the general stock. The gain of $200,000,000 meant an increase of more than 25 per cent in a single year an astonishing rate, and this yellow hoard came in exchange for the products of American soil and labor. It involved another fact of great significance. The United States absorbed almost the entire gold production of the whole world in 1898, except the yellow metal used in the arts and industries. Director Roberts puts the world's output last year at $285,000,000 and he estimates the amount used in the arts and industries at $65,000,000, which leaves $220,000,000 as the amount added to the world's currency. The United States having increased its stock by $202,000,000, only a beggarly $18,000,000 was left for all the other nations of the earth. The United States did not borrow this enormous sum but earned it, and the case probably has no parallel in history.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

Will Use Harveyized Armor for Some Vessels.

Washington, June 8.—Secretary Long has passed upon the armor bids submitted recently, deciding to purchase a small quantity of armor and to let the next congress decide what shall be done towards securing the remainder needed for the armored ships already authorized. The armor companies having stated that they could not furnish Krupp armor of the high grade required by the department at the price fixed by the law, but that they could continue the supply of Harveyized armor at $400 per ton. The secretary has ordered the purchase of some of the latter. The bureau chiefs have reported that this Harveyized armor would answer the requirements for the armor of the four monitors to be built, and also for the diagonal plates of the battleships Maine, Missouri and Ohio, now under construction. These diagoanl plates were wrought into the ships at a comparatively early period of the construction for the secretary's decision will go far toward preventing the delay that would ensue had it been decided to purchase no armor.

PAY IN THE NAVY.

Readjustment of Compensation Under Navy Personnel Bill.

New York, June 12.—A dispatch to the World from Washington, says:

The navy department has issued a circular fixing the salaries of navy officers under the navy personnel bill.

Admiral Dewey will receive $13,500 whether on duty at sea or on shore. The senior rear admiral's pay is fixed at $7,500 at sea and $6,375 on shore. Rear Admiral Schley is in this list but only receives the minimum amount, as he is assigned to shore. The junior rear admirals receive $5,500 whole on sea duty and $4,677 on shore. Rear Admiral Sampson is in the junior list, but having a command at sea receives the maximum pay.

Should Schley be given an assignment at sea he would receive $2,000 more a year than Sampson, but at the new his pay amounts to but $870 more. Captains receive $3,500 at sea and $2,975 on shore.

WAITING IN LONDON.

Washington Ready for the Alaskan Modus Vivendi.

Washington, June 12.—Washington is still waiting on London in the matter of a modus vivendi relative to the Alaskan boundary. Indirectly the intimation has reached here that the Canadians, to whom the last American proposition was referred, have consented to its acceptance by the British government. But, officially, nothing is known here of this. The point at issue up Saturday was trifling, involving possession of a strip of land not much more than half a mile wide, and not bearing upon the tide water question.

ALGER'S ORDER.

Sparrow Nest Not to Be Molested Without His Consent.

Washington, June 10.—By direction of the secretary of war, says the Washington Times, the sparrows' nest and contents thereof, located on the east portico of the War department, shall not be removed, molested, or approached until further notification.

Such was the substance of an order promulgated by Secretary Alger just before his recent departure from Washington for a three weeks' sojourn in the West.

During the spring the sparrows have a habit of building their nests in the crevices of the state, war and navy building. One particularly bold bird invaded the portico in front of the secretary's office and built a nest in the folds of the awning. The sunshade remained closed for a number of weeks, and the mother bird and her family were progressing nicely, when a hot day caused the secretary to order the awning lowered.

As one of the messengers let the covering down the nest containing four half-fledged sparrows fell to the stone portico. Secretary Alger saw the havoc that had been done, and instructed the messenger to place the nest in one of the cool corners and rehouse the young birds in their broken home. He then issued the above order.

PRIVATE TAGGART.

Soldiers Remains Will Be Sent to His Mother.

Washington, June 12.—A pathetic story of the war was revealed to-day, when Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn sent the following cablegram:

"Otis Manila:—Send personal effects of Taggart, Co. F, Thirteenth Minnesota, addressed to Mrs. Taggart, 118 Seventh street, north, Minneapolis. Send the body also, if possible.

"MEIKELJOHN."

Mr. J. S. Van Antwerp, the well-known correspondent, visited the war department and submitted to Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn a letter from Mrs. Eva C. Taggart, of Minneapolis. Mrs. Taggart in the mother of V. Ellis Taggart, who died in Manila on May 23. The young man had enlisted in Co. F, Thirteenth Minnesota volunteers at the breaking out of the war, and had made a good record for himself as a soldier, but exposure and not being of a very robust constitution caused him to sicken and die. The letter from the heart-broken mother to the correspondent says in part:

"Last fall I asked a favor of you in regard to sending a Christmas box to my precious boy in Manila. Through your efforts, the box was promptly sent, and I now wish to request that you aid me in another very great favor. My poor boy died in Manila on May 23—so I have been informed. This grief seems more than I can bear when I remember how he longed to come home and how devotedly he loved his mother. He wrote me often that he had been collecting curios and souvenirs, and had quite a large collection, which he knew would please and interest mother. His whole thought and care appeared to be to bring home something which would please me. Now, that he is dead, all that is passed and gone. I cannot but feel that God has dealt harshly with me. Will you please ascertain if I can or may have his collection and all that belonged to him sent to me from there at once? But oh! cannot his poor, precious body be sent to us here without any delay? I feel that I cannot leave his remains there very long. I wrote to Gen. Corbin over a week ago, but have received no reply, and am so anxious about these things that I cannot rest. God grant that you may find a way to help a poor heart-crushed mother."

When Assistant Secretary Meiklejohn had read the letter, he turned to the correspondent and said:

"Yes, God bless her, she shall have her poor boy's effects, and his remains, too. God bless her. I will cable at once to Otis to have the collection and other effects sent to Mrs. Taggart, and, if possible, the body will be shipped without delay."

And forthwith the cablegram was sent, as was also a message to Mrs. Taggart that her requests would be complied with at the very earliest possible moment.

FOR ARBITRATION.

Venezuelan Board and Counsel Are Gathering.

London, June 8.—The attorney general, Sir Richard Webster, Q. C.; Sir Robert Threshie Reid, Q. C.; the former attorney general ,and G. R. Askwith, of the British Venezuelan boundary commission, started for Paris to-day. Others leave at the end of the week, and the lord chief justice, Baron Russell, of Killowen, and Sir Richard Henn Collins, lord justice of appeal, will leave for the French capital shortly, in order to be present at the opening of the Venezuela boundary arbitration, June 15.

Counsel for Venezuela, and Mr. Mallet-Prevost, secretary of the boundary commission, have statements of the case amounting to 6,000 pages of closely printed matter in Spanish, Dutch, French and English, accompanied by 200 maps.

The opening speech of Sir Richard Webster is expected to last sixteen days.

OUR MINISTER TO SPAIN.

Storer Will Present His Credentials to the Queen.

Madrid, June 10.—Mr. Bellamy Storer, United States ambassador to Spain, will arrive here this evening from San Sebastian, the summer residence of the Spanish court, whither Mr. Stanton Sickles, secretary of the legation, has gone to accompany him to Madrid. His delay has no political significance, whatever. He simply desired to find a residence for his own use when the court goes to San Sebastian, and it is now expected that he will present his credentials to the queen on Monday next.

AFTER EVANS.

Commissioner of Pensions Severely Arraigned by G. A. R. Post.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., June 8.—Commissioner of Pensions H. Clay Evans was subject to much criticism at the session of the state encampment of the Pennsylvania G. A. R. which was held to-day. Resolutions severely criticising the commissioner for his recent action in the matter of pensions, were offered, but at the suggestion of the conservative element, they were withdrawn, and a resolution was submitted referring the matter to the national encampment with the request that an investigation be made.

ANNUAL FRANCHISES.

State of New Jersey Will Reap a Veritable Harvest.

Trenton, N. J., June 7.—The state board of assessors has filed with state comptroller the first schedule of corporations upon which an annual franchise tax is levied. The schedule includes 2,885 companies, and a subsequent schedule to be filed will include about 3,000 more. The companies included in the first schedule have an aggregate issued capital stock of $1,454,457,000, and are assessed in the sum of $901,278. The schedule to be filed later on will include principally the smaller companies.

CONTRACT LABOR LAW.

Its Wholesale Violation Charged Against Chicago Firm.

Chicago, June 9.—The Chronicle says to-day:

Slavonic laborers are being brought by the wholesale to South Chicago. The majority are promptly given employment by the Illinois Steel company. United States immigration inspectors have been watching this big influx and are convinced that there have been many violations of the contract labor law. One batch of men has been sent back to their native land, and efforts are being made to get evidence sufficient to return 2,000 more.

TILDEN'S RESIDENCE.

Country Seat of the Sage of Graystone is Sold.

New York, June 7.—Greystone, the country seat of the late Samuel J. Tilden, at Yonkers, was sold to-day at partition sale, in accordance with an order of the supreme court.

The property was sold in two parcels, Samuel Untermeyer being the purchaser of both. The first, which included 56 acres, the magnificent greystone mansion, stone stable and carriage houses, vast hothouses and conservatories, frame dwelling and stable, parked lawns, drives, etc., with water rights along the Hudson river, brought $121,000. The second parcel, 55½ acres, suitable for villa and residential sites, brought $50,500.

DEADLY TORNADO.

Scores of People Killed and Many More Wounded.

St. Paul, Minn., June 3.—J. A. Carroll, who arrived at Stillwater late last night, was in New Richmond, Wis., when the cyclone struck. He says hundreds of people were killed. The ruins of the town are burning, he says, cutting off all hope of escape for those pinned in the wreckage.

Carroll was in the hotel just before 6 o'clock. It had been stifling hot, and the air was breathless. A dull rumble broke the stillness, increasing to a roar.

"I ran to the door of the hotel," he says, "and there was the tunnel-shaped cloud bearing down upon us. The noise of its roaring was frightful. The blackness of the sky was indescribable. I shouted that a cyclone was upon us and ran for the basement. It was hardly an instant before the building was lifted from its foundation, twisted into fragments and dashed into splinters.

"Charles McKennon, the proprietor, was in the basement with me. I helped take him out with terrible injuries. We saved his wife also and one of his children, both injured.

"We could hear his other child crying under the wreck, but were not able to get to it. One of the laundry girls was taken from the ruins. I suppose she was fatally hurt. Not a building is left standing in the main street, which was well built of brick.

"The track of the storm seemed to be half a mile wide. How far it extended I can not tell. The storm struck us from the southwest, and its on-rushing was like a tidal wave—nothing could withstand it. There is not a building left on its foundation in the main part of the village. Most of them are twisted and beaten to shreds.

"To add to the horror fire in the ruins followed the storm. It was night and there were no lights. There was no means left for fighting the fire. The only thing we could do was to battle for the lives we might reach before the fire cut off escape. I must have worked two hours in the debris. I do not know how many we saved. A train was got together to come to Stillwater for help, and I came with it."

New Richmond is on the Wisconsin Central line, and on the Duluth-Superior branch of the Omaha road.

It is 36 miles east of St. Paul, and in the heart of the rich farming section of St. Croix county. It is near Willow river, on which are several large saw and grist mills, and is quite a business center. It is one of the oldest towns in Western Wisconsin, and had many handsome residences. There were two principal streets crossing each other at right angles, the more important ones running east and west. It was through this street the storm passed. The thoroughfare was three miles long, lined with trees, and made a fine driveway.

Damage to railroads, telegraph and telephone lines and crops, is widespread.

Next to New Richmond, the most severe damage done by the storm was at Hudson, Wis., and also at La Crosse, Wis. In the vincinity of the first named town a tornado and cloudburst destroyed wires, haystacks, unroofed residences, barns and outbuildings all along its path.

At La Crosse it was the worst storm known in seventeen years. Nearly five inches of rain fell. The river rose so rapidly that 40 people, living in the lower portion of the city were driven from their homes. Over 100 head of livestock were drowned. Nearly every bridge in the La Crosse valley is gone.

At Mankato, Minn., six inches of rain fell. Winona, Minn., Sparta, Wis., and other towns in the adjoining territory are partly under water and much damage done.

Faribault, Minn., Elroy, Viola, Brockton, Tomah, also suffered severely, and have the same story to tell of flooded cellars and streets; heavy damage to crops, hundreds of head of cattle drowned, numerous washouts on the railroads, bridges washed away and wire communication paralyzed.

New Richmond, Wis., June 13.—One hundred and seventy-five killed and four hundred wounded in last night's tornado is the estimate of casualties received at 11 o'clock to-day by General Manager Scott, of the Omaha road.

The storm struck the Omaha at Boardman and followed the track to New Richmond. It hissed through New Richmond from south to north and levelled the centre of the city and the people were penned in and scores buried. In the street from the depot, starting with Henry Beal and company's store through to the Hotel Nicolet, on both sides of the street, every building is gone and only the most incomplete information as to the killed and wounded was obtainable this morning.

Milwaukee, Wis., June 13.—The following telegram has just been received from Congressman John J. Jenkins, from New Richmand, Wis., addressed to the governor and chamber of commerce:

"The city wiped out by storm. Every business building and contents and over half the dwellings and contents total loss. Many hundred dwellings and contents partly injured. Over 100 wounded; forty dead bodies, many missing, and ruins burning. Local people making heroic efforts and giving freely of what little they have left. They can be furnished for a short time, but with few exceptions no food or clothing. Not an article of goods, wares or merchandise left by noon.

There will not be a mouthful to eat; must have immediate relief. Will require aid for some time. Not a coffin or article to bury the dead. Practical destitution prevails. Will you notify the public and ask them that aid be forwarded as soon as possible."

A committee has been appointed by President Cottrill, of the chamber of commerce to supply the needs of the suffering people.

The Wisconsin Central railway has furnished a car that will be loaded with supplies from here to-night. The Central has also ordered two boarding trains to the stricken town. Lots of forty people will be fed at a time on these trains.

Milwaukee, Wis., June 13.—Advices received at the Wisconsin Central offices in this city from New Richmond at 10 a. m., say that only the south part of New Richmond was wiped out and that the number of dead will not exceed one hundred, and the injured about the same number.

Division Superintendent A. R. Horn, or Steven's Point, is on the ground and has been instructed to furnish a list of names of the dead and injured as soon as possible.

Congressman Jenkins is also on the ground at the head of a relief committee and everything possible is being done for the homeless and suffering. The Wisconsin Central depot is intact, only a few windows being blown out.

About 1,000 feet of telegraph line was blown down and an office is being established a considerable distance from the town.

Minneapolis, Minn., June 13.—A special from Barron, Wis., forty miles northeast of New Richmond, says: "The tornado struck here at 6:30 last night, wrecking a dozen buildings and severely injuring Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Howard. Mrs. Howard's injuries are thought to be fatal. The Norawegian Lutheran church was totally destroyed. Ten "Soo" freight cars were demolished and the damage is heavy.

Railroad Wreck.

Kansas City, Mo., June 9.—Between forty and forty-five passengers were injured, three perhaps fatally by the derailment of train No. 4, southbound on the Kansas City, Pittsburg and Gulf railroad, three miles south of Grandview, Mo., at 9:30 last night. The train left Kansas City late, and was running at a slow rate of speed, on account of bad condition of the track, occasioned by heavy rains. The injured were brought to this city this morning and the seriously hurt taken to St. Joseph's hospital and the others to the Savoy hotel. Forty-nine persons were injured.

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Purely vegetable, mild and reliable. Cause perfect digestion, complete absorption and healthful regularity.

For the cure of all disorders of the Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Female Irregularities, Sick Headache, Biliousness, Constipation, Piles and all derangements of the internal Viscera.

25 cts. a box. At Druggists' or by mail. "Book of Advice" free by mail. RADWAY & CO., P. O. Box 865, NEW YORK.

AGUINALDO DICTATOR.

General Otis Describes Situation In Luzon.

London, June 8.—Special dispatches from Manila say it is reported that Aguinaldo has dissolved the Filipino congress and has proclaimed himself dictator.

Washington, June 8.—The situaition in the Philippines is described by General Otis in the following cablegram:

Manila, June 8.—Adjutant General, Washington:—The result of the movement in Morong province was to drive the insurgents into the mountains, capturing Antipolo and other towns in that section with point of land projecting into bay. They retreated and scattered before our advance, leaving twenty-five dead on the field; our loss four killed and few wounded, mostly slightly. City of Morong on only land route around bay, garrisoned; all other troops withdrawn. Inhabitants of provinces profess friendship, ask protection; large numbers wish to enter Manila; refuse, as the city's population is increasing too rapidly. Leading natives throughout the island, including active insurgent leaders, seek permission to send their families to Manila; considered only place of personal security.

(Signed.) "OTIS."

The conclusions drawn by war department officials concerning the condition in the Philippines, given in the dispatch of Gen. Otis, are that the insurgents are little more than maurading bands, which will continually decrease when the men find that there is life and liberty under American government. These bands are regarded as something like the bands of Indians twenty-five and thirty years ago and the people who are coming into the American lines asking protection, are considered like those who sought protection in the forts during the early stages of American development in the west. Nothing is yet said as to the intention of Gen. Otis to continue active hostilities, but this is a matter that will be left wholly in his discrimination, and he will no doubt fight or rest as the circumstances determine.

Manila, June 8.—The United States cruiser Boston, Capt. W. H. Whiting, has sailed for San Francisco by way of Magasaki, Japan, with long service officers and men from the various American warships.

The battleship Oregon will soon be stationed off Dagupan, in the gulf of Lingayen, on blockade duty.

The United States gunboat Albany, one of the vessels purchased from the Spaniards, and commanded by Ensign W. H. Standley, has captured three sailing vessels and one steamer off the island of Negros. Nine of these boats (of the Albany class) are now in commission and are doing good service in the shallow waters of the southern islands.

Favorable reports are still being received from the party of fifteen Americans belonging to the gunboat Yorktown, headed by Lieut. J. C. Gilmore, of that vessel, captured on April 12, by the Filipinos not far from Baler. The prisoners are all well and are receiving fair treatment.

THE CRUISER NEWARK.

Driven by a Terrific Gale Into Port Low.

Washington, June 13.—The following cablegram has been received at the navy department from the commander of the Newark:

"Castro, Chili, June 12.

"Secretary Navy, Washington:

"The Newark arrived at Guacanek island in want of coal. Am making arrangements for a supply to be sent from Talcahuano, Chili. Expect to sail within a few days. (Signed) "GOODRICH."

Guacanek island is on the north side of Guaitecas Grande, one of the group of islands on the west coast of Patagonia in latitude 43-50, south, longitude 174 west, and is about 300 miles north of the Straits of Magellan.

The state department has also received a report on the same subject from United States Minister Wilson at Santiago de Chili. He informs the department that the Newark was driven by a terrific gale into Port Low, Guaitecas, latitude 42.45, coal supply exhausted, but it is believed both vessel and crew are perfectly safe and no damage was done. The Chilian government has just dispatched relief ships with coal and supplies. There is no telegraphic communication with the islands.

Santiago de Chili, June 13.—The United States cruiser Newark is safe. She has been detained in Smith Channel owing to lack of coal. Two of her steam launches have arrived at Ancud, a port of Chile on the north coast of the province of Chiloe.

DISPOSITION OF JAPAN

Is to Preserve Integrity of the Chinese Empire.

London, June 13.—Special importance is attached to the cabinet council which took place this morning. It lasted a couple of hours, and it is believed the ministers finally determined upon the policy to be adopted towards the Transvaal. The secretary of state for the colonies, Joseph Chamberlain, is expected to make a definite statement in the house of commons this afternoon, unless the rumors of his resignation turn to be true.

By a curious coincidence, Mr. Chamberlain was absent from the house yesterday, and to-day it was announced that he and his wife will start for Paris and Lausanne during the course of the week. It is quite unprecedented for Mr. Chamberlain to leave the country during the session, and this, in conjunction with the talk of a disagreement in the cabinet over the Transvaal, was taken to mean that Mr. Chamberlain had decided to leave office. Later, however, an authoritative denial was made of the report that Mr. Chamberlain was going to the continent.

Reed's Resignation.

Portland, Me., June 7.—The Argus this morning says that Speaker Reed's resignation has been sent to Governor Powers, and it is to be presented at the next meeting of the governor and council.

Markets and Crops.

ADVANCE IN PRICES.

This is the Chief Feature of the Trade Situation.

New York, June 10.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says: The past week has brought a rise in prices not equalled in any other week for many years. Iron products have advanced $8.2 per cent, in one week, and pig iron 4.8 per cent.—advances of 8 per cent. in pig and 4 per cent. in products during May. Cotton has advanced 1 per cent., and cotton goods 1.8 per cent. during the week, with woolen goods 8 per cent. and shoes 1 per cent. A little reaction of 6 per cent. appears in leather and 7 per cent. in hides, but the characteristic of the time is that the expectation of higher prices induces buying far in advance of requirements for consumption.

It is needless to say that this is a symptom of danger, and the most conservative manufacturers, especially in iron and steel, have striven to avoid it, but actual inability to deliver products demanded leaves them little power, while speculation in wool and other lines is running away from consumers.

It is a saving feature that quotations are quite largely fictitious. Almost all the goods now being delivered or produced in some industries are on prices fixed by orders accepted several months ago, and nearly all the iron works being thus tied up far ahead, the prices quoted indicate not at all what they are getting, but what they see fit to ask or refuse orders which they cannot accept, or else the body ready to deliver large quantities.

While there is a better demand for woolen goods, so that the prices of some have advanced, it is yet impossible to distinguish speculative operations in wool in Boston from efforts of mills to buy. The prices continue in all wool-growing sections so high as to prevent sales in Eastern markets to consumers and traders who believe that mills will presently be forced to pay higher prices. They are taking the same risk they did in the winter of 1897, not realizing the size of stocks held.

The cotton market has advanced a sixteenth without other reason than the great demand for goods. Goods are selling largely and prices of ginghams and prints have advanced.

After some advance wheat suddenly declined 2 cents, closing lower for the week. Against all accounts of injury is the solid fact that Western receipts were 5,059,103 bushels for the week against 1,047,045 from the great crop of last year, and at current low prices such receipts would be inexplicable if growers really expected a short yield. Exports have declined, being only 1,849,273 bushels, flour included, from Atlantic ports, against 4,206,293 last year, and 623,400 from Pacific ports against 253,213 last year, but even as to future foreign demands there is no strong evidence. Corn has shown unusual independence, scarcely changing in price with exports 2,084,900 bushels, against 4,134,641 last year.

Failures for the week 159 in the United States against 203 last year, and 10 in Canada against 17 last year.

GOVERNMENT REPORT.

Condition of Crops Generally Is Poor.

Washington, June 12.—Preliminary reports of the spring wheat acreage indicate a reduction of about 470,000 acres, or 2.5 per cent. Of the twenty states reporting 10,000 acres or upward in spring wheat, six reports an increase aggregating about 245,000 acres and fourteen a decrease amounting to about 715,000 acres. There is a reduction of 7 per cent in North Dakota, of 5 in Minnesota, 8 in Iowa, 3 in Washington, 1 in Nebraska and none in Oregon. On the other hand there is an increase of 4 per cent in South Dakota and of 6 per cent in Washington.

The average condition of spring wheat on June 1 was 91.4, as compared with 100.9 at the corresponding date last year, 89.6 on June 1, 1897, and 93.2, the mean of the June averages for the last fifteen years. The averages in the principal states are as follows: Minnesota, 94; North Dakota, 93; South Dakota, 95; Wisconsin, 96; Iowa, 91; Nebraska, 89; Washington, 88; Oregon, 81.

The average condition of winter wheat is 67.3, as compared with 90.8 at the corresponding date last year, 78.5 on June 1, 1897, and 83.4, the mean of the June averages of the last fifteen years. The principal averages by states are as follows: Pennsylvania and Texas, 77; Maryland, 76; Virginia and Kentucky, 72; Tennessee and Washington, 76; Ohio 75; Michigan, 45; Indiana and Kansas, 63; Illinois, 38; Missouri, 60; Oregon, 87; California, 81, and Oklahoma, 85. The acreage winter killed having been eliminated, the present acreage relate strictly to the acreage still under cultivation.

The total reported acreage in oats is seven-tenths of 1 per cent less than last year. There is an increase of 4 per cent in New York,, of 2 per cent in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Michigan, of 5 per cent in Wisconsin and Kansas, of 7 per cent in Nebraska and of 3 per cent in North Dakota. On the other hand, there is a decrease of 2 per cent in Indiana, Minnesota, South Dakota and Iowa, of 1 per cent in Illinois, 13 per cent in Missouri and 4 per cent in Texas.

The average condition of oats is 88.7 as compared with 98 on June 1 of last year; 80 at the corresponding date in 1897, and 91.2, the mean of the June averages of the last fifteen years. The principal state averages are as follows: New York and Illinois, 96; Pennsylvania, 87; Texas, 73; Ohio, 86; Michigan and North Dakota, 94; Indiana and Nebraska, 93; Wisconsin, 95; Minnesota and Missouri, 89; Iowa, 90; Kansas, 76; South Dakota, 92.

WHEAT ACREAGE.

It is Lower and Conditions Are Not Favorable.

Washington, June 10.—The consolidated returns of the different crop reporting agencies of the department of agriculture, made up to June 1, indicate a reduction of about 5 per cent in the acreage planted in cotton, as compared with last year. The reports from several of the cotton states are more or less conflicting, and the department will issue no quantative estimate of the acreage until it is more definitely ascertainable; that there has been a substantial reduction of acreage, however ,admits of no doubt. Not only was the acreage originally planted less than that of last year, but there has been some plowing up of lands on which the seed of a generally poor quality of which there are hundreds of complaints had failed to germinate.

The indicated decrease in the principal states is as follows

North Carolina and Tennesse, 11 per cent; South Carolina and Alabama, 7; Georgia, Louisiana and Arkansas, 10; Texas, 9; Mississippi, 2; Indian Territory, 4, and Oklahoma, 15.

The average condition on June 1, was 85.7, against 90 on June 1, 1898, and 88.1 the mean of the June average for the past fifteen years.

The condition in the principal states is as follows:

Texas, 90; Georgia, 88; North Carolina, 87; South Carolina and Alabama, 86; Tennessee, 85; Indian Territory, 84; Louisiana and Oklahoma, 81; Arkansas, 80, and Mississippi, 78.

Just Average Crops.

London, June 12.—The Mark Lane Express, in its weekly crop report today, says Belgium, Holland, Italy and parts of Austria-Hungary promise average wheat crops. In France, Germany, Spain and Poland the crops are fair, and there are hopes for a full average crop. In Russia the drought is too prevalent to allow a hopeful yield of either wheat or rye. In Roumania, Servia and Bulgaria a short wheat crop is regarded as inevitable.

REVIEW OF WEEK'S BUSINESS.

OFFICE OF THE TOLEDO BLADE,
Toledo, O., June 13, 1899.

The markets for wheat as compared with a week ago are ¾ to ⅞c higher. The government report came bullish, being about ten points lower than that of the previous month. Reports from Russia and Roumania are of a gloomy character, there being continued drought. The English, French and German crops are in good condition. The Hessian fly has done great damage in the United States. Corn is about 5c up as compared with a week ago. Trade was fairly active. Clover seed is about 10c higher. Trade has been dull.

Condition of the Grain Trade at the Close To-Day.

Wheat opened a trifle lower to-day, the factors being heavy northwestern receipts and lower European and continental cables. There was an effort made to put prices up on account of disastrous storms and rains, but there was heavy eliing in the northwet, which checked the up-turn. Toward the close there was good buying and prices moved up. The reports from Russia and Roumania continue bad. Trade was comparatively dull, but closing figures were about at the top.

Prices of wheat to-day:

July—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close
Toledo	71¾	73⅝	71¾	73⅛
Chicago	70¾	72¾	70¾	72⅝
New York	80⅝	81⅝	80¼	81⅜
St. Louis	67⅝	69⅜	67¾	69⅜
Minneapolis	73⅝	75⅜	73¾	75⅜

At Chicago June wheat opened at 71¾c; no close; September, 70¾c; high, 72¾c; low, 70c; close, 71¼c. At New York September wheat opened at 80¼c, fell to 80c and closed at 81⅛c bid. At St. Louis September wheat opened at 70¼c and closed at 78⅝c bid. At Minneapolis September wheat opened at 72⅝c, fell to 72⅜c, and closed at 72⅝@72¾c.

Corn was a little weak at the opening, but firmed with wheat. At Chicago June corn was worth 34½c; July, 35¾c; high, 36⅜c; low, 33½c; close, 34¼c; September, 35¾c; high, 37⅜c; low, 35⅜c; close, 34⅝c. At New York July corn opened at 39¾c, and closed at 40c bid; September, 39¼c; close, 39⅝c bid.

Berlin wheat 2 to 2½ marks lower, closing Liverpool wheat ½d higher to ¼d lower for spot; futures ¼d to ½d lower. Spot corn ¼d to ½d lower; futures ¼d to ¾d lower.

Paris wheat 15 centimes lower; flour 10c to 20c lower.

Antwerp wheat unchanged.

July puts on wheat: Open, 75⅝@75¾c; at 1:30, 75¾c asked; calls, 76¾c bid; at 1:30, 76⅝c asked.

June oats at Chicago, 24½c; close, 24⅝c; July, 25½c; high, 25⅝c; low, 25¼c; close, 25⅜c; September, 20⅝c; high, 21c; low, 20⅝c; close, 20⅝c.

Pork at Chicago for June, $8.25; July, $8.15; high, $8.17; low, $8.15; close, $8.20.

Lard at Chicago for June, $5.02 nominal; July, $5.02.

Beerbohm, June 12.—With wheat only just in the ear in parts of Europe, it is obviously merely a question of guess work what will be the crop. Allowing all in some manner say that allowing all other non-European countries equal crops to those of last year, the world's production of wheat in 1899 may be 44,000,000 quarters less than in 1898, with 208,000,000 quarters, against 252,000,000 quarters last year, 284,000,000 quarters in 1897, 252,000,000 quarters in 1896, 313,000,000 quarters in 1895, and 328,000,000 quarters in